

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

This week's poll:

How optimistic are you that 2012 will be better for the CNMI economy than 2011?

Let your voice be heard! Go to [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com) to cast your vote.



## INSIDE



### Early Christmas

Christmas came early for over a hundred Head Start Center students in Garapan.

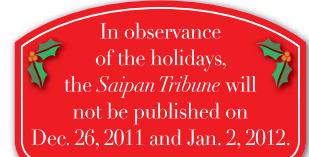
LOCAL...Page 6



### Spirit of Giving

Members of the Rotary Club of Saipan donate toys to the Salvation Army.

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In observance of the holidays, the *Saipan Tribune* will not be published on Dec. 26, 2011 and Jan. 2, 2012.

Only 6 of 20 House members submit to drug test. PAGE 4  
A successful run for 'Toys for Tots' campaign. PAGE 18

## Huge boom in 'sponsorship industry'

By CLARISSA V DAVID  
[clarissa\\_david@saipantribune.com](mailto:clarissa_david@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The processing of Commonwealth-only status for foreign workers has given rise to a huge boom in a "sponsorship industry" where workers pay their own fees for employment services without a promise of a job—a situation that has been happening long before the federal government took over the islands' immigration system, according to immigration lawyer Maya Kara.

**See HUGE on Page 4**

## 'Christmas need not be somber'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

While many government officials and ordinary citizens have complained about how hard it is to make ends meet these days because of government pay cuts, fewer number of tourists visiting, high costs of utilities and commodities, delayed scholarship checks, delayed release of tax rebates or refunds, or no Christmas bonus, others said yesterday that Christmas in the CNMI is a lot merrier than in many other parts of the world devastated by typhoons, tsunamis, quakes, civil wars, and terrorism.

The CNMI has not had a major typhoon or any other natural or man-made disaster in years. All it has to deal with is

**See CHRISTMAS on Page 4**

### 'TIS THE SEASON

CLARISSA V. DAVID  
A young student of the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center in Garapan/Chinatown sits on the lap of Santa Claus as the two do the peace sign during Santa's visit, which was part of the program sponsored by the Saipan Soccer School for over 100 children at the center yesterday morning.



## PSS posts all-time high student attendance

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The daily attendance of students in public schools is at an all-time high despite a slight drop in enrollment in the first quarter of the fiscal year, according to Education Commissioner

Rita A. Sablan yesterday.

In her report to the Board of Education, Sablan said that two elementary schools have an overwhelming attendance record of 99 percent: San Vicente Elementary School and Tinian Elementary School.

Most public schools had student attendance

records that ranged from 94 to 98 percent in the first quarter of the fiscal year.

The all-time high record is also evident in the attendance of school staff and personnel, according to Sablan.

The school system is home to nearly 11,000 students and about a thousand employees.

The Public School System, she said, is cur-

**See PSS on Page 4**



Sablan

# Local

*During this Holiday Season, may your families be blessed with the tidings and joys of a safe holiday, most especially our CNMI sons and daughters in uniform serving our country throughout the world and let us remember and pray for our fallen heroes and their families, "We Salute You".*

*From our families to yours, Merry Christmas and have a Prosperous New Year!*

**CONGRESSMAN ANTONIO P. SABLAM,  
FAMILIES AND STAFF.**

A black and white portrait of Congressman Antonio P. Sablan, a man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a suit and tie, standing in front of a floral arrangement.

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## Kilili: While NMI got least ARRA money, it got most per capita

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday that while the CNMI has been awarded the least amount of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money among 50 U.S. states and five U.S. territories, it actually gets the most per capita because of its small population.

"The U.S. national average for ARRA money is \$899 per capita. The CNMI gets over \$2,200 per capita," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Federal tracking agency recovery.gov data shows that the CNMI has been awarded over \$119 million in ARRA money from Feb. 17, 2009 through Sept. 30, 2011.

This is the least amount received among territories, including American Samoa, which has been awarded over \$208 million and with a population estimate of 55,519 in 2010.

Among states, ARRA awards range from over \$662 million in Wyoming to over \$34 billion in California as of Sept. 30, recovery.gov data shows.

"So we're successful in getting \$2,200 or something, how can I complain? Rather than complain, I want to say thank you to the generosity of American taxpayers," Sablan said. The ARRA bill was one of the first pieces of legislation that

Sablan supported when he was first elected into office.

If not for ARRA money since 2009, Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) believes the CNMI would have fared worse than it already has.

"The CNMI government has a declining collection. Can you imagine if there's no ARRA money? It could have been worse. In my opinion, ARRA helped the CNMI in providing essential services such as public health, public safety, and education," he said.

Tebuteb said the Legislature alone got energy-efficient lights and air-conditioning units because of ARRA money. "But I'd say some government agencies could have availed more of ARRA money," he added.

Of the total \$119 million in ARRA money awarded to the CNMI as of Sept. 30, 2011, \$42 million or 35 percent has yet to be spent.

Most or over \$48 million that's already spent went to education, followed by energy/environment at over \$38 million, transportation at over \$15 million, over \$3 million for infrastructure.

The rest went to family, public safety, science, housing, job training, and health programs and services in the CNMI, whose government budget for fiscal year 2012, for example, is only \$102 million.

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# Comprehensive evaluation tool for COE underway

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A comprehensive evaluation tool is now being crafted to measure and assess the overall performance of Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, according to Board of Education chair Marylou S. Ada yesterday.

An ad hoc committee that is

tasked to complete the evaluation mechanism has already solicited a proposal from the Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning, or McREL, to help craft the evaluation tool.

Ada formed the ad hoc committee in May to come up with a complete evaluation tool for the education commissioner. From its

initial deadline of July, the committee now has until Dec. 31 to submit its recommendation.

Yesterday, ad hoc committee chair Galvin Deleon Guerrero disclosed that McREL is expected to turn in the proposal in January 2012.

"McREL is now drafting the evaluation [tool] that will stand in time. It should be workable,

very comprehensive, and encompasses everything. We want the [evaluation] form to be practical and not just the regular standard performance and inclusive of everything. We need something that will stand the test of time and will be used for many years," Ada told *Saipan Tribune* after yesterday's board meeting.

Sablan's contract is up for

renewal in August 2012. It is the board's goal to use this new comprehensive evaluation tool to assess her effectiveness on the job. Sablan's contract is for four years, with an annual salary of \$80,000. The commissioner is the board's sole employee.

Once the evaluation tool is finalized, Ada said the evaluation itself will be conducted by the board prior to any action on Sablan's contract.

According to Deleon Guerrero, the ad hoc committee decided to approach McREL to make sure that the instrument and process that will be used for the COE evaluation is aligned with the evaluation tools and process de-

veloped for the entire system. During the board discussion, Sablan expressed her willingness to be subjected to the new comprehensive evaluation process.

Sablan has been serving the school system for more than 25 years, starting as a teacher in 1982. In August 2008, Sablan became the commissioner, replacing David Borja.

Besides the COE, all teachers and administrators of will also be evaluated using a new performance evaluation system beginning this school year 2011-2012.

The performance evaluation shall be conducted on a yearly basis on the teacher's and administrator's anniversary date. Administrators are composed of principals and vice principals.

## Banks seek dismissal of Flores' lawsuit

First Hawaiian Bank sought the dismissal yesterday of the lawsuit filed by Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores, who is seeking the return of his time certificate deposit in the amount of \$200,000 that he allegedly purchased in 1993.

After hearing the parties' argument, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona placed the motion under advisement. She also ruled that the court has jurisdiction over the case.

Flores appeared with counsel, Juan T. Lizama. Attorney Richard Johnson appeared on behalf of First Hawaiian Bank. Attorneys Elyze McDonald Iriarte served as counsels for Union Bank of California.

Iriarte argued for First Hawaiian Bank's motion to dismiss the lawsuit. Johnson argued Union Bank of California's support to the motion to dismiss. Lizama opposed the motion.

Flores is suing First Hawaiian Bank and Union Bank of California for allegedly refusing to return the principal and interest earned on a time certificate of deposit that he purchased from the then Union Bank Saipan branch in 1993.

Flores is suing the banks for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, negligence or gross negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud.

On Nov. 15, 2001, Union Bank reportedly sold all assets and liabilities of its Saipan branch office to First Hawaiian Bank.

In its motion to dismiss, Johnson denied that First Hawaiian Bank received Flores'

vestment defies common sense.

Iriarte said for that long-term investment, Flores purchased a certificate of deposit that matured in a very short 32 days, with interest "payable at maturity" and made no demand for 15 years.

"If [Flores] intended a long-term investment, making a demand on a one-month CD 15

years after it matured lacks common sense," the lawyer said.

In opposing the motion to dismiss, Flores, through Lizama, asserted that the record of his time certificate of deposit could not have disappeared without any negligence or its intentional destruction.

Lizama asserted, among other things, that the shredding of documents is extremely suspect. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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## Only 6 of 20 House members submit to drug test

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Only six of 20 House members have submitted to voluntary drug testing two months after House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) asked members to do so to remove suspicion in anyone's mind about lawmakers on the heels of Rep. Ray Palacios' (Cov-Saipan) arrest on charges of drug trafficking.

## 'CHRISTMAS'

*From Page 1*

its economy and politics, among other things.

"Instead of complaining about what we don't have, be thankful for what we have. Life is not harder today than before. Let me tell you what a difficult life is. Our parents and grandparents lived through World War II. They were dodging bullets and survived, that's why we're all here. Us, we are living in a peaceful environment now. All you have to do is work hard, love the people around you, and most of all, have faith and hope," said Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan).

Tebuteb said people in CNMI could complain about leaner Christmas budget, but he said the fact that they could celebrate the holidays with their families is in itself something they should be thankful for.

"Many in other parts of the world cannot even celebrate Christmas because they are at war," he said. "And I hope people in the CNMI don't forget about those serving and those who served so we could have freedom and peace."

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), who is back from Washington, D.C., said he's happy that he can spend Christmas and New Year "here at home with friends and family."

He has also asked people "to keep all our men and women in the armed services, and their families, in your thoughts and prayers during the holiday."

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan), who also served in the war against terror, shared Tebuteb and Sablan's statements about remembering those in the armed forces as people celebrate the holidays. "May we all have a prosperous and healthy New Year," he said.

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), for his part, called on people to celebrate the holidays "with what little we have. But let us not forget that our Savior was born in a manger."

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in a joint holiday message yesterday, said "the greatest blessings of all are the ones that don't cost a thing: the comfort of spending time with loved ones, the freedoms we enjoy, and the joy we feel upon giving something of ourselves."

They said Christmas is a time to rejoice and a time of remembrance.

"At this special time of year, we give thanks for Christ's message of love and mercy, and we are reminded of our responsibility to serve," they said.

Fitial and Inos also said the CNMI "is blessed with the gift of fine citizens who reach out with a compassionate hand to help others in need."

"We also remember our brave men and women in uniform who have volunteered to defend us at home and away from home. Many of [them] will

Cabrera received yesterday a copy of Rep. Joseph Palacios's (R-Saipan) drug test result which came back "negative."

The speaker said he's glad that Palacios, along with other members, volunteered to undergo drug tests. Cabrera was the first one to undergo the test, which also came back "negative."

The four others who underwent drug test results that came back "negative" included floor leader George

Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) also heeded the speaker's call for lawmakers to undergo drug testing. Sablan's test result also came back negative.

The House speaker said Rep. Ray Palacios has not submitted himself to drug testing.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
Capital Hill's iconic tree stump is all decked out for Christmas. Despite financial hardships, the CNMI still has the safest and merriest holiday season compared to many parts of the world devastated by natural and man-made disasters.

spend Christmas far from home and away from family. We honor their sacrifice, ask God to watch over them and their families, and pray for their safe return," they added.

If he were Santa Claus, House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said the gift he would give is the restoration of 40-hour work week for government employees.

Most government employees are now subject to a 16-hour cut every two weeks as part of the administration's austerity measures. The fiscal year 2012 budget of \$102 million is about the same level as it was some 22 years ago.

"And if money is there, a lot of well deserved government employees would be given the money owed them. 2011 may not be the best year but I ask for their patience. Financial difficulty is not only in the CNMI but in many

parts of the world too," he said.

Cabrera also wish that the House and Senate will work together to pass revenue-generating bills and bring back the CNMI to its old glory. The House leadership has been pushing for the passage of a bill legalizing casino gambling on Saipan. The bill is now with the Senate, which killed a similar bill last year.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), for his part, said that while the economy is not in good shape, people can still have a happy, meaningful, and safe Christmas.

Just like other elected officials interviewed yesterday, House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) wishes everyone a "very Merry Christmas."

"Let us all have fun and be safe," he added.

A new First Hawaiian Bank economic analysis said that the CNMI economy "continues to lack promise."

"I talked to him about it. I called for voluntary drug testing. It will be up to the members," he said.

Nevertheless, the speaker tasked a Special Standing Committee on Offi-

## Tinian works on a revised \$3M budget for 2012

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

The Tinian Legislative Delegation is now reviewing a revised proposed budget based on projected casino revenue of \$3 million for fiscal year 2012, whose first quarter is now almost over.

But Senate Vice President Jude Hofsneider (R-Tinian), chair of the delegation, said yesterday that members are still weighing the latest estimate, considering that the actual collection from casino revenues in fiscal year 2011 was only \$2 million.

"The delegation is still reviewing the matter. We might come up with a decision Monday or Tuesday," he said.

The last time the Tinian delegation approved a local budget was in 2006.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) said that was the time when he was chairman of the Tinian Municipal Council. Cruz and Hofsneider are hoping that this time around, a budget will be passed.

A few months ago, Tinian was projecting only some \$2 million revenue in fiscal year 2012, but officials said optimism on the part of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino changed the figure to \$3 million.

cial Conduct and Ethics to investigate Rep. Raymond Palacios' alleged drug use and to make a recommendation. Palacios stepped down as chairman of the House Committee on Education.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) said given that they have been presented different projected revenues and appropriations by Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz and the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, the delegation needs to thoroughly consider their action before voting on a budget bill.

Hofsneider said the delegation is cautious about approving an optimistic budget, only to end up collecting much less than projected.

"But we know that Dynasty has been putting a lot of effort and hard work, getting charter flights to bring in tourists and generate more revenue," he added.

The Tinian mayor wants a substantial amount of the proposed budget to be used to pay outstanding debt. These include payments to the NMI Retirement Fund, vendors and retroactive salaries. The budget request also includes funding for the Tinian Municipal Scholarship and medical referral.

Rota, meanwhile, could not pass a municipal budget because its first casino has not reopened since March 2011 and the second casino granted conditional license has yet to open its doors.

## PSS

*From Page 1*

rently working with a few schools that need support in the areas of attendance and absenteeism. School principals have agreed to collaborate with the board's school reform committee and the parent advisory panel to improve their data.

Board chair Marylou S. Ada emphasized yesterday the importance of achieving high attendance in schools. "This attendance record tells us that our students are very enthusiastic in coming to schools. This is an indication that

we're doing the right thing for them. We have to remember that if attendance is low, this means we're not doing our duties and responsibilities because they lack the motivation and encouragement to learn," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ada said the all-time high record also means that students are not dropping out of schools.

She believes the good data is the students' positive feedback to what they're getting from the school system.

Meantime, Sablan disclosed that PSS showed a 1.8 percent decline in its enrollment since classes opened in September. She said official student population as of Nov. 10 is 10,812.

## HUGE

*From Page 1*

"I know the feds are paying attention to it. How much attention they are going to pay to it, how much enforcement efforts they're going to throw in that direction remains to be seen. I hope they do because some of the things that we've seen going on are really ugly," said Kara yesterday.

Kara and husband Bruce L. Mailman were among the presenters at the conference sponsored by the Society for Human Resource Management – NMI Chapter, dubbed "HR: Navigating through Change" held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret.

In an interview, Kara believes that her perception is "a fairly reliable one," having served the local government for 17 of her 23 years on Saipan. She served in different capacities, including as a former attorney general and a hearing officer at the Department of Labor.

"As a hearing officer, I saw sponsorship schemes day in and day out...it was just real apparent to me, how much of it was going on," said Kara.

Kara described the enforcement of labor laws in the Commonwealth before federalization as "so lax," where no one bothered with foreign work-

ers who did not have permits. "That's probably how we ended up with this large, unemployed foreign population."

Given the "CW crunch" and the late release of the parole-in-place option for these undocumented foreign workers, Kara said they had to scramble for a status and those who did not have any other option resorted to being processed by newly formed businesses that require workers to pay for the fees before they are applied for a CW status.

Kara said unemployed foreign workers "are being exploited mercilessly" through sponsorship schemes.

"What I'm angry about sponsorship is that it's a matter of preying on the most vulnerable segment of society for pure financial motive," she told *Saipan Tribune*. "Rip off the people who are desperate, basically. To me, that's just wrong."

While many had hoped that the sponsorship industry will go away with the federal takeover, Kara emphasized that "it's alive and well."

"I'm hoping USCIS will weed it out but it's going to take them awhile because these adjudicators are in California and they don't really understand the CNMI reality," said Kara, adding that she believes they will "go pretty easy" and "lenient" on CW applications on the first year.

## Great deals and promos for late Christmas shoppers

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
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REPORTER

With the Christmas rush in full swing, late holiday shoppers can still get the perfect last-minute gifts for loved ones from various businesses and stores on island that offer enticing discounts and promotions.

Depending on your shopping list, you will still have many options to choose from, going on a spree even if on a controlled spending budget.

If the recipient is looking for electronics, Saipan Computer Services is running a holiday sale until the end of the month. They offer desktops, laptops, including accessories for the

## Guam judge's designation to handle Fund lawsuit questioned

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Attorney Bruce Jorgensen is questioning the designation of U.S. District Court for Guam Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood to handle Sapuro Rayphand's court action to remove the Retirement Fund's lawsuit from the Superior Court to the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Jorgensen, as counsel for Rayphand, said he learned on Nov. 19, 2011, that Superior Court associate judge Joseph James N. Camacho, spouse of Fund counsel Viola Alepuyo, had been sworn in as a judge, with Guam attorney Philip J. Tydingco serving as presenter at the investiture ceremony.

In Rayphand's errata filed in federal court, Jorgensen said that, on Dec. 7, 2011, he was apprised that Mr. Tydingco and Judge Tydingco-Gatewood are siblings. Jorgensen attached as one

of the exhibits Mr. Tydingco's statement to the media that over the past eight or nine years "our families have remained close friends."

This recent knowledge in context of other circumstances, Jorgensen said, "give rise to heightened reservations on [my] part...respecting Judge Tydingco-Gatewood's designation here."

The lawyer noted that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona had recused herself from the case.

In that order, Manglona cited that because her husband, CNMI Supreme Court associate justice John A. Manglona, is a member of the Fund, she must disqualify herself from participating in the matter.

Last month, Tydingco-Gatewood found improper Rayphand's removal of the Fund's lawsuit against the Filial administration from the Superior Court.

### Season's Greetings!

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Holiday shopping is not complete without buying clothes. Purchase the ideal outfit for women at 20 to 30 percent off at Fashion Clicks Boutique in Puerto Rico. Bali Fashion along Middle Road also has an ongoing sale for men, women, boys, and girls' apparel. Lollipops and Girl Talk stores have promotions on their toys and clothes.

Kevin's Department Store doesn't just have toys, it also has home and office furniture, pots and vases, and other gift items to choose from. Monika's Furniture has an array of Bali-made home décor, jewelry, lamps, statues, and other pieces you can give as gifts. If watches are their thing, visit Caronel Watch Center in Garapan and ask for their holiday specials.

Looking for a pampering gift? Avail of holiday specials at Hanamitsu and Spa where they offer local rates for guestrooms, massage and spa, and nail care and design. Royal Thai Massage, meanwhile, offers \$15 full body massage for their Christmas promotion.

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Looking for a pampering gift? Avail of holiday specials at Hanamitsu and Spa where they offer local rates for guestrooms

# Head Start students get early Christmas from Saipan Soccer School



Management and staff of Saipan Soccer School join students and teachers at the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center in Garapan/Chinatown for a photo opportunity with Santa Claus and his elf yesterday morning.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Christmas came a few days early for over a hundred students at the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center in Garapan/Chinatown when the Saipan Soccer School management and staff visited the young learners yesterday.

The event kicked off with a demonstration of soccer drills by visiting coaches Wai Wo "Jacky" Lee and Kwok On "David" Tsui of ChelseaFC Soccer School in Hong Kong. The students, ranging in ages from 3 to 6 years, were fascinated as they watched the two show off their skills.

Following the exhibition, the coaches along with the school staff engaged the students in a race to pass the ball to their teammates, with parents and teachers sharing in the excitement by cheering them on.

Santa Claus and his elf also dropped by, giving away gift packs and a chance for the children to have their picture taken with him.

Cameras clicked nonstop as Santa handed out gifts containing coloring books, crayons, puzzles, stickers, and

pencils to children who took turns sitting on his lap for that perfect Christmas snapshot.

Saipan Soccer School staff Mae Ito said that both students and coaches spent a week preparing to ensure that everything was ready for the Head Start kids.

"It felt good wrapping all the presents but felt so much better seeing the smiles on the children's faces. We wanted to end the year on a positive note and I feel that by doing this activity, we did," Ito told *Saipan Tribune*.

School president Jerry Tan said that community involvement through outreach programs is part of Saipan Soccer School's mission and their visit to the Head Start Center is the first of the many community projects they intend to do at least quarterly.

"This is the Christmas season and we thought that reaching out to the kids, bringing Santa and giving them gifts should be very special to them. Especially at our soccer school, we like to focus with the youth. We decided to take Head Start and just do our small part to make their day special," said Tan.

Tan encouraged children to be healthy and be part of Saipan Soccer School to learn more about the sport.

Head Start's Nakita Braganza said yesterday's event fits their goal at the center, which is to provide the kind of environment that children need to grow and develop. He said they told the children in advance of what was going to happen, which got them "really, really excited."

The soccer drills, on the other hand, matched their outdoor time, which incorporates a wide range of activities in the open air. "Because of that, we can now do an activity involving soccer," said Braganza.



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High Option: Single = \$ 4,000; family = \$ 12,000  
Low Option: Single = \$ 10,000; family = \$ 30,000

## Local bill re-allotates \$180K for Saipan projects

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A local bill that has already undergone a few revisions seeks to re-appropriate over \$180,000 in previously allocated funding for several programs.

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) and Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan) offered their latest version of House Local Bill 17-52, Draft 1, Substitute 1 during Tuesday's session of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation. The delegation has yet to act on the local bill.

The original bill only seeks to re-appropriate funds from various Saipan local laws and

business units to the Northern Islands Mayor's Office for the First Northern Islands Development Summit and for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council.

But Saipan lawmakers kept adding items to the list.

The latest version of the bill seeks to re-appropriate \$5,000 from Saipan Local Law 16-21 to the Northern Islands Mayor's Office for the First Northern Islands Development Summit.

It also re-appropriates \$2,000 from SLL 15-12 to the Saipan and Northern Islands Municip-

pal Council for the drafting and promulgation of the necessary rules and regulations associated with the Leadership Memorial

Courtyard also known as the Kios-ku project.

Also re-appropriated are \$6,250 from SLL 15-12 and \$5,000 from business unit number 3752A to the Department of Public Works for the purchase of a mower

for the maintenance and upkeep of various roads on Saipan.

The local bill also re-appropriates \$2,000 from SLL 14-31 for the payment and the completion of the Dandan Children's

Park playground equipment.

It also re-appropriates \$1,325 from SLL 17-6 to DPW for right-of-way projects.

Also re-appropriated is \$10,750 from SLL 15-12 for the reconnection of power to the basketball courts in San Roque and As Matuis, for the payment of utility bills resulting from the use of such basketball courts, and facility improvements. Yumul and Iguel's bill also re-appropriates up to \$4,658 from SLL 15-16.

Lastly, the bill amends Section 2(b) of SLL 17-6 to allocate \$143,235.60 for "various" projects instead of only road paving projects in Precinct 2.



Yumul

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18th: 11am -2pm & 6p-10pm 19th - 24th: 6pm-10pm 25th:11am- 2pm & 6pm-10pm

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## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**Dec. 23, 2002**

### 'Rota power 95 percent restored'

Residential areas and businesses on Rota, particularly in Sinapalo, have been reconnected to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. earlier than expected, utility officials said. CUC executive director Lorraine A. Babauta said Friday that CUC power on Rota, especially in Sinapalo, was 95-percent restored. The CUC earlier projected that power services on the island would not be up until after Christmas. "I'd say it's earlier than expected because it's already 95-percent complete. This is because they have dried out the system fast. We're hoping to finish all repair work as soon as possible," she said in an interview.

### PSS asked to be more pushy in raising funds

Public School System officials, including school principals, are asked to aggressively look for alternative funding to be able to meet PSS needs amid the continuing fiscal crisis. This, even as the Board of Education has admitted that private schools get more donations from private businesses than the PSS through the educational tax incentive program. BOE chairman Herman T. Guerrero said during a board meeting Thursday that the PSS needs to be more aggressive in raising funds to supplement its current budget.

**Dec. 23, 2003**

### Tourism TF eyed to address guests' security

A tourism consultant has suggested the creation of a tourism task force to better address security for travelers, which could have short- and long-term effects on the industry. Sociologist Peter E. Tarlow, PhD., founder and chief executive officer of Tourism and More Consulting Service, said this in his presentation at the Tourism Conference held Friday at the Sandcastle Saipan. "People who should be on this task force are local officials, tourism officials, and transportation officials. Many government agencies are there to help local community officials and businesses," Tarlow said.

### Increased police visibility lauded

In relation to the recent outbreak of car break-in cases in some of the island's tourist spots, the Japan Saipan Travel Association lauded the Department of Public Safety's quick action to curb such incidents that usually victimize visitors. JSTA is a local association established in 1992 for the purpose of promoting tourism in the CNMI by inviting as many Japanese tourists as possible. "So naturally, JSTA is very much concerned about the safety and comfort of the tourists," said JALPAK general manager and JSTA president Motoyuki Osawa.

**Dec. 23, 2004**

### 'Removal of negative status next project'

Having succeeded in getting its airport revenue bonds off the credit watch list, the Commonwealth Ports Authority now has its eyes set on reversing the negative outlook given to its bonds by Fitch Ratings. CPA executive director Carlos Salas expressed confidence yesterday that Fitch would give CPA a better outlook rating if the authority manages to comply with its bond coverage ratio this year. "We got the negative outlook because of our two years of non-compliance to the debt service coverage requirement. We finally met the requirement in 2004; perhaps another year of compliance will make Fitch more comfortable," Salas said. International credit rating agency Fitch Ratings announced on Monday that it has removed CPA from negative watch, following CPA's rebounding enforcement levels, recovering financial position, and the scheduled implementation of a \$4.50 terminal fee in 2005.

### House defers action on land lease extension initiatives

Due to the issuance of a "minority report," the House leadership on Tuesday deferred the action on the initiatives calling for land lease extensions. "In consideration of the minority report, the leadership decided to defer action on the initiatives. Actually, it's the leadership intention to conduct a public hearing to allow people to voice their opinion on these issues," said House leadership spokesman Charles Reyes Jr. yesterday. The report refers to the position paper submitted Tuesday by the minority bloc headed by Rep. Arnold I. Palacios, opposing two initiatives that aim to extend the land lease terms in the CNMI to 75 years. Palacios' group objects to the passage of Senate Legislative Initiative 14-3, which seeks to extend land leases of private lands from 55 years to 75 years, as well as House Legislative Initiative 14-10, which extends public land leases from 25 years to 50 years.

**JOETEN'S**

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<b>Girls Clothing Shirts, Dresses Sets, Pants 20% off</b>	<b>Boys Clothing Shirts, Pants and Sets 20% off</b>	<b>Infant Clothing Shirts, Pants and Sets 15% off</b>	<b>Cosmetics &amp; Fragrances 15% off</b>	<b>Toys and Games 25% off</b>	<b>Bicycles &amp; Tricycles 25% off</b>	<b>Houseware 25% off</b>	<b>Rugs and Linen 25% off</b>
<b>Picnic and Patio 25% off</b>	<b>Christmas Candles 25% off</b>	<b>Christmas Linens 35% off</b>	<b>Christmas Housewares 30% off</b>	<b>Ribbon, Bow &amp; Wrapping 35% off</b>	<b>Christmas Lights &amp; Decoration 50% off</b>	<b>Christmas Lawn &amp; Decoration 50% off</b>	<b>Paper Products 50% off</b>

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	Bar-S Chuckwagon Hotdogs 1 lb. <b>99¢</b>		May Brand Shrimp 26-39 ct. 2 lb. <b>\$10<sup>69</sup></b>		Tilapia <b>89¢/lb.</b>

## SUPERMARKET

	Kellogg's Pop Tart 21 oz. <b>\$3<sup>50</sup></b>		Barilla Pasta Spaghetti 16 oz. <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>		Special V. Dressing 16 oz. <b>\$1<sup>45</sup></b>
	Best Food Mayonaise 64 oz. <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>		Tang Orange Mix 22 qrt. 4 lb. <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>		Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz. <b>79¢</b>
	Aspen State Wine 750 ml. (Any Flavor) <b>\$5<sup>55</sup></b>		Gossips Wine 750 ml. (Any Flavor) <b>\$5<sup>55</sup></b>		The Vine Brut Cuvee 750 ml. <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b>

	Red Bell Pepper <b>\$1<sup>75</sup>/lb.</b>		Brown Potato <b>79¢/lb.</b>		Cello Lettuce <b>\$1<sup>75</sup>/pc.</b>		Dozen XL Eggs <b>\$2<sup>35</sup>/dz.</b>		Cantaloupe Melon <b>89¢/lb.</b>
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# Opinion

*Hafa Adai!*

## Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

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*Special to the Tribune*

*Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.*



### A Merry, unplugged Christmas

If Santa tries to e-mail me I hope he doesn't want a prompt reply, or he'll probably just wind up leaving a lump of coal in my stocking. I pretty much unplugged from the cyber-world so I can enjoy some peace for the season. What's notable is that this should prove so, well, notable. But it has. Some of my friends are therefore adjudging that I'm a Neanderthal or something. So if it pleases the jury, the accused will say a few words in his own defense.

Even in normal times, unless I'm working on something that might require responsiveness, I only check e-mail a few times a week.

Admittedly, I think this makes me out of sync with the times. Judging from the glimpses I've seen of the younger set, text messaging, smart phones, and other forms of connectivity seem to be a primary focus in life.

Come to think of it, it's not just the younger set. A common sight in hotel restaurants at breakfast is the middle-aged guy staring into his laptop computer, totally engrossed in his cyber-bubble, while his wife sits across from him in an awkward, neglected silence.

But it's not always silent. Some Prince Charming will usually be offering a running commentary on the news as he peruses it. It's mighty generous for such a guy to share his worldly wisdom with the little lady. And so much the better if he's shoving a toasted bagel into his gaping mouth during the monologue, since the mixture of saliva and dough has been known to soften the diphthongs a bit, making for a smooth tonal quality.

I wonder how many wives have spent how many hours enduring how many breakfasts facing the backs of computers. Or, for that matter, newspapers.

Maybe the instant cycle of news these days makes constant connectivity and attention to media seem necessary. Well, it's easy for me to neglect, I guess, since I lack the hand-wringing impulse over what the world is doing. Why bother? For me, it's like microwaving a bag of popcorn; there's no need to stand there and watch it, it's more efficient to just follow the instructions on the bag.

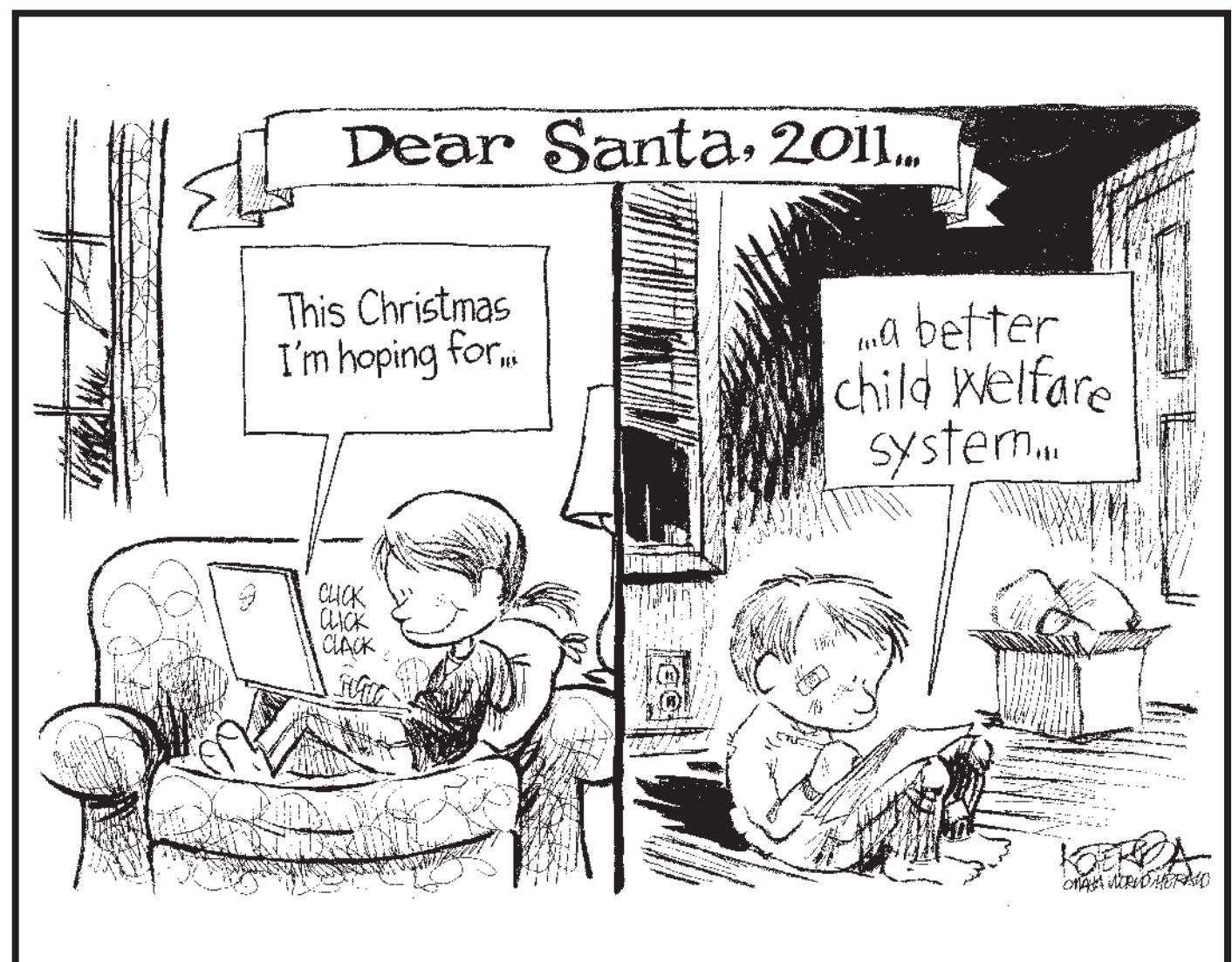
One of my favorite things about this season is that I get phone calls from pals all over the world, typically colleagues from various flying jobs and contracts. None of us are "keep in touch" kind of people, so it usually takes Christmas to force us into that mode. It lets me reel in the years a bit, as I thumb through my photo album reliving our adventures and, in a few cases, our misadventures.

Ah, adventure. There's no better time to think about it. So I'll spin a brief tropical yarn.

When I worked at sea on merchant vessels as a helicopter pilot, we'd be on the high seas for weeks, or even months, and we'd get little, if any, news. I did have a special luxury, though; I was allowed a weekly, single-page fax from my girlfriend, which came via the company's maritime satellite connection. If there was an emergency a crewman could get a phone call placed via the satellite. So we weren't totally incomunicado, but a lot closer to it than most modern folks can even fathom.

One guy eventually bought a fancy radio in port. It got satellite

*See MERRY on Next Page*



### Thoughts on retirement programs

**A** new book has just been released describing how organizations spoil the retirement plans of their employees. The title is *Retirement Heist* by Ellen E. Schultz, Penguin Publishing. For those with English as a second language, the dictionary defines the word "heist" as robbery, holdup or steal; in other words, to take unlawfully. The author is a former staff investigative reporter for the *Wall Street Journal* and points out several methods employers use to cut costs by cutting into the retirement plans they sponsored often as part of a compensation package to induce workers to join the organization.

One example described by the book's author was labeled the "pleading strategy" where the organization tells its retirees that the burden of their medical expenses are too high and ask retirees to accept reductions in their benefits. This is sometimes referred to as the "creeping take away" which involves slowing taking away benefits little by little, with the "chipping away" process so slight that the reductions are intentionally designed to appear to be insufficient to warrant retirees incurring the legal cost and headache to fight the slow diminishment.

According to the author, in one instance when the issue did get to court, attorneys for the organization desiring to limit benefits previously contracted for saw their attorneys playing with the plain English language of the contractual agreement with retirees. They did this by attempting to interpret words and define phrases to suit their deadbeat clients. For example, arguing the term "lifetime" didn't mean extending over the remaining life span of the retiree but instead meant to cover the life of the contract. It became a game of semantics in an effort to renege on a contractual agreement with the retirees.

Still another method according to the author was to establish an "offshore" organization outside the laws of the United States—make a different organization responsible for a retirement program and let it go bankrupt or simply unilaterally "terminate" the benefits with not so much as a "sorry about that," then wait for the retirees to sue, and when they do, drag out the litigation until the retirees either give up or die. Check out the book on Amazon.

For more than 10 years I have been interested in the NMI's retirement program and over that period the following articles have appeared in this paper any one of which can be reviewed in the archives when requested by date (month day and year). For those interested the titles and dates are listed below.

The articles were independently researched and written without remuneration, hopefully to be of interest to NMI retirees. I felt the subjects listed and the issues discussed were in need of exposure from the point of view of an economist and retiree. It was hoped the material would be informative and helpful to interested retirees and others. Dating from the year 2001 the articles were published for the purpose of alerting retirees and various administration officials of the deteriorating condition of the Retirement Fund. These alerts appeared in the early years in the absence of any newsletter, periodical, or website published by either the Retirement Fund or the central government. The author believed that members of the Fund at large and others (surviving spouses and dependent children) would find those subjects addressed and listed to be in their financial interest.

- The Retirement Fund's "Creeping Meltdown" Neglect of the Fund: Money Must Make Money, Part 1, *Variety*, July 10, 2001
- The Retirement Fund & Government's Costly Neglect: Money Must Make Money, Part 2, *Variety*, July 11, 2001
- A Retirement System In Trouble, *Variety*, Nov. 4, 2002
- It's Only Money—and Size Has Nothing To Do With It, *Variety*, May 13, 2003
- The Retirees' Troubled Health Insurance Program: Is A Financial & Political Solution Possible?, *Variety*, June 10, 2003 (With graph: Government Income & Expenditures [1986 to 2001 Locally Generated Revenue])
- The Retirement Fund and the golden goose that is about to be cooked, *Variety*, Jan. 29, 2004
- Write It On The Wall, *Tribune*, April 14, 2004
- Plucking the Retirement Goose, *Tribune*, Dec. 29, 2004
- Will it Be Back to Square One With the Government's Medical & Health Privatization Recommendations?, *Tribune*, Jan. 7, 2005
- Kao para ta fanhanao tatte gi titinuhon-na i Siguridat Hinemlo' na programan gubietnamento?, *Tribune*, Jan. 12, 2005 (Jan. 7 article above translated by Henry I. Sablan)
- How Long Are You Likely To Live After Retirement? And Will The Fund Still Be Operational?, *Tribune*, Jan. 14, 2005
- Some Unanticipated Consequences Resulting from the Government's Neglect in Making Payments to the Retirement Fund: Part 1, *Tribune*, Jan. 27, 2005
- Some Unanticipated Consequences Resulting from the Government's Neglect in Making Payments to the Retirement Fund: What Options Remain?: Part 2, *Tribune*, Jan. 28, 2005
- The Responsibility of Managing Other People's Money, *Tribune*, Feb. 1, 2005
- A Few Thoughts on the Privatization of Retirement Programs & Medical Plans: Part 1, *Tribune*, Feb. 17, 2005
- A Few Thoughts on the Privatization of Retirement Programs & Medical Plans: Part 2, *Tribune*, Feb. 18, 2005
- A Little Bit About A Lot of Money: The CNMI's Retirement Fund, *Tribune*



**By WILLIAM H. STEWART**  
*Special to the Saipan Tribune*

*William H. Stewart is an economist, historian and military cartographer.*

*See THOUGHTS on Page 13*

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Yearend island intrigues

**Y**ou're tired, frustrated, paralyzed by assorted unsolicited slam dunks, panting for air in hopelessness while humming, "where have all the flowers gone?" Is this it or is there still hope for the better? Is it a realistic viewpoint? How do we translate it into lasting policy decisions? Do we carry on with more of the same or shall we jointly shift gear?

Gee, there's more to do in 2012 than meets the eye, right? Let's splurge so we move along with the season, although parties and overeating are not all comfort and joy!

Private industries suffer heavily from two federal laws that imposed both uncertainty and fees beyond the reach of struggling small businesses. Can the Legislature work on removing recently imposed hurdles or is it still sleepwalking? Can it converge with the learned experts and others so we jointly trump our cards for fresh ideas? Or would this exercise result in another round of redundancy and mediocrity?

The NMI has a lot on its plate it could hardly resolve with some sense of common decency. Ah! The holiday season where it's time to party-up with permissible overeating and boozing. But we know it isn't all comfort and joy, not for the jobless who recently lost the first family home.

Be that as it may, local Republican leadership finds difficulty peddling its "drink milk" brand of advice to incumbents it recently slighted. If only the pesky bunch would just shut up, things would be fine. Even this Christmas Eve could be celebrated with "sleep in heavenly peace" and all shall be fine. But it's an unlikely scenario.

Fitial and his cabal are reassessing how to market their brand of milk. Would changing the color of the can from red to white ensure appeasement of incumbents it decided to throw out to sea? Would the GOP architects teach those whom it dumped at sea how to swim in milk? That would have the equivalence of forcing an ant to swallow a whole cow. Sorry, there's no room there for those of us who live in the real world. But we could hear GOP helmsmen nervously whistling discordant notes as they walk past graveyards. Whose graveyards?

The Covenant hardly feels abandoned by the untimely disappearing act of the titular head it placed in office. It still stands proud and courageously saying with tongue in cheek, "Eh, we only want cold milk and let there be peace and harmony in Republican land."

The troubling dilemma brings into focus pondering our future in the silent corners of our mind. We quiz if there's any hope at all for a brighter 2012 or will it be more of the same under the charge of exhausted demagoguery? Or do we step up to the plate so we could recapture our future, as uncomfortable as it may be?

The exhausted guards know with painful certainty that they would lose control of the political landscape. This would deny them the power to continue telling us what to do in perpetuity. No one is ready to repeat destructive and painful recent history nor employ selective amnesia and be victimized by irresponsibility once more. Change is finally on its way.

Are you satisfied with the way things are where dystopia, meaning—where nothing works—rules the day, sending thousands of families to the pits of misery daily? Do you wish to repeat with inebriated, exhausted demagogues who are at best, dysfunctional, dazed, fat, and immobile? Luxury isn't in our lexicon or vocabulary! How much longer do you have to cut back on familial necessities?

■ ■ ■

For proponents of keeping Article 12 intact, it's good if you do yourself a favor by reading up on "natural" and "civil" rights. It should give you a clearer view which category the right to property falls. To hide behind the use of the term "protection" without a true and factual explanation of the fallacies and shortsightedness of Article 12 would be an injustice, especially for proponents peddling fallacious ware.

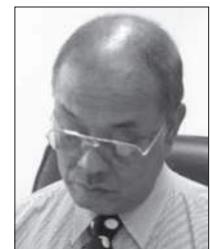
Understandably, the old exhausted guards are struggling to retain relevancy in dealing with governance if only to retain controlling the political landscape. Like a baseball pitcher who has reached his peak, it's best to hang up your gloves while you still could sashay out of the field. Better yet, climb the bleachers if only to see a different and pleasant view of the baseball diamond.

■ ■ ■

There's a quiet political scheme to topple Kilili from his Washington seat. What bundle of fallacy, if not, insanity gone wild! Kilili truly enjoys the connectivity he's established and nurtured with the simple folks at home through town hall meetings. He listens to the voice of his people (governance) while others did the same in absentia with pomposity.

**By JOHN DELROSARIO**  
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

*DelRosario is a regular contributor to the *Saipan Tribune's* Opinion Section.*



Furthermore, Kilili has established a networking system working with colleagues from both sides of the aisle in the U.S. House of Representatives. He doesn't need a super lobbyist like recently released federal prisoner Jack Abramoff to push his agenda through Congress. He walks and works the aisle daily with a sense of humility. Kilili will win this year's race by another landslide!

■ ■ ■

Would the old Covenant guards retain their seat in the Legislature or would they all have to deal with the bad side of history? Too, some of the Republicans with less than sterling performance would also bite the dust. In brief, most Covenant incumbents would return not. It's the end of another day where governance would make you graduates of the Class of 2012.

The Legislature needs people with real credentials and experience, people with strong perception of issues and a clear understanding and ability to articulate their materials forthwith. No more "addresses" please. It's time to buckle down to the pits of realistic problem solving.

Some issues requiring thoughtful review include the titanic crash of the local economy, skyrocketing cost of health care destined to deny services to the poorest, tourism swaying at the base ready to do its titanic crash; wealth and jobs creation; education; horrendous cost of utilities and a safe community. Some of these issues require fact-based materials prepared by real experts. It requires policymakers to be conversant and ready for educated discussion and disposition.

Please steer clear of tinkering with another set of laws about bicycle safety and undergarment display in Garapan. Is this the depth of policymaking of simply missing the largest issue (economy) staring at you straight in the eye? But here's that Clinton-esque declaration, "It's the economy, stupid!" How relevant still, huh?

event. All we need is to be notified and we will take the time to assess and hopefully entertain the problem right then and there.

It is our mission and goal and our desire to continue bringing MMA entertainment to the people of the CNMI for many years to come and we will work effortlessly in making each event better than the one before. With tough times almost accepted as a way of life here because of the bad economy and all, we are happy to do our part in providing a competitive arena and safe haven for all our fighter athletes and fans who enjoy the sport of mixed martial arts and give them a chance to showcase their skills in international goodwill competition. Merry Christmas and Happy New year! Enjoy the rest of 2011!

**Justis F. "Cuki" Alvarez**  
President, Trench Tech MMA

## MERRY

*From Page 10*

feed from an armed forces broadcast, but once at sea again the outside world seemed so distant and remote (because it was) that none of us could muster the energy to care about the news.

Existence pretty much boiled down to a singularity: The ship. Society was our shipmates. My world was a helicopter. The universe was our slice of the ocean, and, for me, my slice of the sky.

That's a helluva way to earn a living. As a geezer now, I couldn't gather the guts to do it again. But I wouldn't take a million bucks to have forsaken the experience; professional adventure pays a type of interest that no bank can match.

And, incidentally, for all its demands, that life was unfettered by the noise and chatter of the world at large, the same noise and chatter that compels constant connectivity these days.

Well, that was a long time ago. As for the gal who sent the weekly faxes, she's now the lady at the other end of my breakfast nook.

I don't deride connectivity or news, but it's never had a place at my table, and during the holidays I keep it even further at bay.

So I can't send you an e-mail to relay the sentiment, but I wish you a very Merry Christmas!

## Letters to the Editor

## Family oriented entertainment

Dear Mrs. Maclay: Thank you for your letter on Monday, Dec. 19, where you talked about the selling of alcohol to minors at our Trench Warz 15: Supremacy event. This is a very serious issue and should definitely not be overlooked.

My team and I have discussed this issue and are steadfast in creating a system for future events to prevent this and will do our best to make sure this incident never happens again if indeed it did. In fact, we will start a zero tolerance effort for proper ID checks and segregation of 21-year-and-older bracket to consume alcohol, perhaps a simple wristband (different color) or tag after determining the person's age.

Although we try our best to take every precaution and measure to provide a safe environment for our fighters and fans, there are times and certain instances when some things are overlooked. It is our responsibility as promoters and sponsors to work toward a better effort for each event and show in making sure we tighten up any and all loose ends.

As for children attending our show, it is at the discretion of their parents or legal guardians. We do not allow small children to enter

if they are not accompanied by an adult. We look at our events as family oriented entertainment. Some people do not feel the same way and if that's the case, please do not bring your children. MMA is not for everyone and the choice to attend an event is entirely up to the individual. We have already taken part in many anti-bullying campaigns in recent years and have addressed this issue with parents, teachers, and students in the public school system. It's all about educating people.

Trench Tech has been hosting MMA events like this for over seven years. We have held a total of 32 successful events with over 500 bouts combined. Of the 500 plus bouts, there were never any serious injuries. We have rules and regulations that are set that all competitors and participants must abide by and follow inside and outside of the octagon. This is also due to the fact that we run a zero tolerance effort before, during, and after our events for any competitor who breaks these rules. Our mission statement is: "We Create Friendship through Fighting."

If there are any issues that we overlook, then we are more than willing to resolve these issues on the spot. Especially during an

he knows a lot and is always mindful of employer-employee labor relations when selecting and hiring candidates to fill their needs.

I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Ada in both labor and employment issues. He is not one who pretends to know what he needs to do, but makes sure that he knows and does the right thing. The victory of this first of its kind case must account for what he did upon the appearance of the discrimination. Doing the right thing resulted in this victory.

Keep up the good work, Joe. Now you know that what you did is the right thing to do. Congratulations to Ed Cho as well for I know that he has every confidence in his Human Resource manager and allows him to operate, resulting in this good product. Merry Christmas.

**Alfred A. Pangelinan**  
Dandan Village, Saipan

## Doing the right thing

Recently, a woman lost a discrimination suit that she filed against Saipan Grand Hotel under the direction of Mr. Ed Cho as general manager and Joe Ada as the Human Resource manager. Perhaps many people will believe that the case was won under what they may term as "luck" but I believe that Mr. Ada's knowledge in the human resource field, specifically knowing how to deal with sexual harassment activities, provided an effective and easy representation in the court of law.

Mr. Ada's addition to the organization is a plus. When he first started working for Grand Hotel, his quest was to elevate the percentage of the U.S. workforce population and be in compliance with legal requirements. Everyone can see the gradual upgrading and turn over. He is one human resource manager who is easy to deal with because

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms ▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Showers ▲ 87 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Showers ▲ 85 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Showers ▲ 84 ▼ 78
Kosrae	Showers ▲ 84 ▼ 78
Majuro	Showers ▲ 85 ▼ 80

### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 68 ▼ 59
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 39 ▼ 17
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 55
Honolulu	Windy	▲ 82 ▼ 71
London	Showers	▲ 54 ▼ 37
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 41
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 90 ▼ 62
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 71
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 54 ▼ 42
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 46 ▼ 38
Paris	Showers	▲ 50 ▼ 37
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 40 ▼ 27
Rome	Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 37
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲ 43 ▼ 30
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 41
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 33 ▼ 23
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 49 ▼ 35
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 49

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		Sunrise/Sunset		Moonrise/Moonset		
12:10 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	Today	6:39 AM 5:53 PM	
7:21 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	Saturday	5:49 AM 5:24 PM	
12:19 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet	Sunday	6:40 AM 5:54 PM	
5:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet	Monday	6:40 AM 5:54 PM	
				Tuesday	6:41 AM 5:55 PM	
					Wednesday	8:32 AM 8:23 PM

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

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Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

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Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

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Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
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To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; C2: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 6, 2011

#### DEPARTURES

##### GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

C05062 2:10am 2:40am 1, 5

##### SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5

##### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

C05070 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP

C05070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily

C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05076 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6

C05072 9:55pm 10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6

#### ARRIVALS

##### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

C05064 5:15am 5:45am 1, 5

##### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

C05062 3:10am 3:45am 1, 5

##### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

C05062 2:10am 3:45am 1, 5 via ROP

C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

C05071 7:00am 7:50am Daily

C05073 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05075 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05077 5:30pm 6:20pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05077 5:40pm 6:30pm 3, 6

C05079 8:35pm 9:25pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05079 8:45pm 9:35pm 3, 6

##### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily

DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily

##### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

02606 2:10am 6:00am 1

02606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

02604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily

##### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

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PR110/C05071 10:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5, 7 via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

**THOUGHTS**

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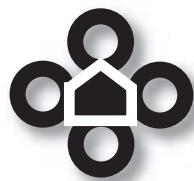
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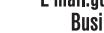
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# US govt still waiting for litigation report in toxic exposure lawsuit

The U.S. government says it needs more time to prepare its answer to a lawsuit filed by a heavy equipment operator who blames his disability on exposure to toxic materials at the Marpi landfill.

Assistant U.S. attorney Mikel W. Schwab, on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday to be given until Feb. 8, 2012, to file their response to the complaint filed by Vijaya Raghavan Sridharan and his wife, Kanchna S. Sridharan.

Schwab said that attorneys Ramon K. Quichocho and Michael W. Dotts, counsels for

the Sridharans, have agreed to the extension.

In their stipulation, Schwab said this case involves the alleged conduct of two separate federal agencies: EPA and Army Corps of Engineers.

Schwab said the defense will be handled jointly by the U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S.

Department of Justice's Environmental Torts Section, Torts Branch, Civil Division.

He disclosed that the U.S. Attorney's Office and DOJ "are currently awaiting a litigation report from the client agencies, as well as the documents and information necessary to fully and accurately respond to the com-

plaint, including the complete administrative file."

Sridharan, a citizen of India, is suing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and EPA for negligence. He also sued his former employer, Pacific Drilling Ltd., for negligence and strict liability. He sued PDL, PDL president Rama Medabalmi and PDL chief

engineer Mahesh Balakrishnan for failure to pay him the minimum wage and overtime.

According to the complaint, Sridharan began working for PDL in 1997 as a heavy equipment operator and stopped working in April 2010 after he could no longer work due to health problems. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## Investing in life insurance: A primer

### Re-evaluating your life insurance policy

While life insurance can seem like a once-in-a-lifetime decision, there are a number of life events that should cause you to re-evaluate your life insurance policy to determine whether or not you have enough coverage for you and your family. So what should your life insurance policy do for you and your family? What life events should make you re-evaluate your life insurance

policy? Balancing your life insurance coverage with your current personal situation is important to ensure that your loved ones will have the best protection.

### Do you need life insurance now or later?

Your age and your personal situation determine your need for life insurance. As long as you have children or a spouse, it is highly recommended that you obtain life insurance to ensure that they are

cared for long after you are gone. If, however, you have neither children nor a spouse, the question remains is, do you still need life insurance? One thing to consider is whether or not you have loved ones who rely on you for financial means, such as your siblings. Another important consideration is your age. Obtaining life insurance when you are young can save you money, so if you plan on purchasing a life insurance policy it is wise to invest early on.

### Term and permanent life insurance

There are generally two types of life insurance plans: term and permanent. Term life insurance is recommended for those young at age and with a family. It offers maximum protection for the lowest premium but it is only valid for the term of the policy. Permanent life also referred to as whole life insurance, on the other hand, offers you protection for life. It also offers a better return on premiums paid, as it incurs a cash value. While the premiums on a permanent life insurance policy will be

higher than that of a term policy, it may be a better choice in the long run.

### Life insurance when you retire

You should expect to see changes in your life after retirement. When you retire your financial situation will more than likely change. Your children may not need the same financial protection that they once did. This is when it is important to review your life insurance policy and

make adjustments to fit your needs. If you are on a term life policy, this may also be a good time to invest in permanent life that will offer you cash value.

For more information on life insurance, call Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. at 234-6267 or visit their office located at Joeten Center in Susupe. You may also visit [www.pacificains.com](http://www.pacificains.com) or send an inquiry via email to [piui@pacificains.com](mailto:piui@pacificains.com). Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. is a general agent for Pacific Guardian Life. (*Pacifica Insurance*)

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- Frequent Trips to the Bathroom:** Even before missing a period, most pregnant women report having to go to the bathroom more often.
- Fatigue:** Being tired is a very early sign of pregnancy.
- Morning (and Noon and Night!) Sickness:** That queasy feeling isn't limited to mornings. Most pregnant women who experience morning sickness feel slightly nauseated and may have vomiting at other times during the day as well.
- Sore (and Enlarged) Breasts:** If you're pregnant, your breasts may become tender to the touch, similar to the way they feel before your period, only more so.

If you have any of the above symptoms or suspect you are pregnant, come to the clinic for a pregnancy test as soon as possible! Don't wait!

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## Rotary donates toys to Salvation Army



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Officers of the Rotary Club of Saipan hold the toys they collected through a toy drive and present them to Salvation Army ministry leaders Wayne and Annie Gillespie during the club's Christmas party at the Hyatt Regency Saipan pool side on Tuesday night.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Members of the Rotary Club of Saipan donated toys to the Salvation Army at their Christmas party at the Hyatt Regency Saipan poolside Tuesday night.

Rotary officers led by president Pete Igitol presented about 50 toys to Salvation Army ministry leader Wayne Gillespie and wife Annie Gillespie. Rotary's toy drive is part of the faith-based organization's annual toy drive for children of the less fortunate.

Igitol said they have been donating toys at the hospital or

other beneficiaries. This year was the Salvation Army's turn.

"We're very thankful that we have some generous hearts. That despite the hardships we're going through right now, we're able to receive toys, thinking about the children that need them. To the children, keep your spirits up and never let your problems dominate you," Igitol told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Gillespies said the toys will help bring holiday joy to some 30 children they serve at the Salvation Army.

Wayne Gillespie said the toys will make the children feel that people love and remember them. "We're really grateful to the Rotary Club for helping us with our toy drive this year," he said.

Wayne Gillespie said there are other organizations, businesses, and individuals—some of whom wanted to remain anonymous—that supported their toy drive.

Annie Gillespie said that while the island community is

small, people are always willing to cooperate and provide support. "We're very fortunate to have a community like this," she added.

Salvation Army board member Lucy Norita-Shilling, for her part, said, "Despite difficult times, when you say that children are in need, people don't even hesitate to give. They're really being generous."

She said the toys will be presented to the children's parents today so they can give distribute them in time for Christmas.

The Gillespies added that the Salvation Army's soup kitchen will be open on Saturday. "It won't be a full blown celebration like Thanksgiving but it will be a decent Christmas dinner," said Wayne Gillespie.

Meanwhile, the Christmas Kettle program at the Joeten Superstore is doing "fairly well." Community members will have until Saturday, Christmas Eve, to donate money or non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army's programs.

*We wish you all the best for a safe and happy holiday season.*

# Merry Christmas!

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**Job Vacancy Announcement (No. 12-02R)**  
**LITIGATION COUNSEL**

**OPENING DATE:** December 23, 2011  
**CLOSING DATE:** Until Filled

The Board of Trustees of the NMI Retirement Fund is seeking one or more professional and motivated individual(s) to work in a challenging environment as a Litigation Counsel. Salary range is \$50,000+ depending on relevant experience. Benefits are commensurate with the responsibilities assigned to the successful candidate and in compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Interested applicants must submit their application, resume, Certificate of Good Standing (from the CNMI or a state court), and police clearance. The complete package is available from the Fund, located on Capitol Hill, Saipan; or by e-mail through the Fund Administrator. Mailed and hand delivered packages must be marked "JVA 12-02R Confidential," and must have the applicant's name and return address on the outside of the envelope.

Richard S. Villagomez Administrator  
NMI Retirement Fund  
P.O. Box 501247  
Saipan, MP 96950-1247  
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

## NMI cadets looking forward to off-island drill competitions in 2012

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps units on Saipan, Tin-

ian, and Rota are now preparing for upcoming drill competitions which, should they win, will entitle them to represent the Commonwealth in the national com-

petition next year.

Saipan Southern High School JROTC Command Sgt. Maj. Leonardo Rabago disclosed this to the Board of Education and

subject to be terminated if it begins to rain.

In addition, traffic officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions and laser (speed detection) enforcement.

This activity is part of the department's effort to deter, detect and apprehend impaired drivers and to ensure that all vehicle occupants are wearing proper restraining devices, seatbelts, car seats, and occupant protection system. (**DPS**)

## DUI sobriety checkpoints on Tinian

The Department of Public Safety, Tinian Division, would like to inform the general public that the Traffic Section will be conducting DUI sobriety checkpoints on the dates and time listed below:

- Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, 8pm to 9:15pm: Westbound lane on Route 201 across from the Tinian Mayor's Office.
- Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, 10pm to 11:15pm: Westbound lane on

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The other team will be whoever wins the drill competitions for Saipan public high schools.

Public School System during the Manta Ray Battalion staff briefing yesterday morning.

Rabago said the CNMI will send delegates to the drill competition in Long Beach, California on Feb. 18.

He said that two groups—to be considered the CNMI JROTC Team—will officially represent the islands in both armed and unarmed drill competitions.

One of these two groups will come from Rota and Tinian units and will be composed of 13 members combined. It will compete in the unarmed drill category.

winner in these off-island competitions.

Rabago, along with his fellow instructors, graced yesterday's BOE meeting where the Manta Ray Battalion performed a short staff briefing for board members. He said this activity aims to orient the board and education officials on how the battalion is being rated by visiting inspectors from regional and national JROTC programs.

JROTC is a federal program sponsored by the U.S. Armed Forces in high schools across the United States. The program was originally created as part of the National Defense Act of 1916 and later expanded under the 1964 ROTC Vitalization Act.



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# A successful run for Karidat, SHRM's 'Toys for Tots' drive

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Karidat Social Services and the NMI Chapter for the Society for Human Resource Management ended Wednesday this year's "Toys for Tots" collection drive, amassing enough toys to bring a bundle of cheer to less fortunate children on Christmas Day.

It was the first time for the two organizations to team up for the campaign, which ran from Dec. 7 to 21. The toys are set to be distributed to beneficiaries today in time for Christmas Day on Sunday.

Despite a slow start, the toy drive picked up over the weekend, with employees from private companies receiving their wages in time for holiday

shopping.

SHRM-NMI Chapter president Polly DLG Masga, who brought the toys to the Karidat office in Chalan Kanoa on Wednesday, said the toy drive went "really well" given the two-week time limit.

"I'm just elated that even with the tough economic times, people were able to donate to the cause, helping the less fortunate who can't afford to buy toys for their children this Christmas," Masga told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Masga, having several dropoff locations was an advantage, with all sites receiving toys. The location with the most number of toys received was at Pacific Islands Club.

She is pleased that a number



CLARISSA V. DAVID  
Karidat executive director and Society for Human Resource Management-NMI Chapter president Polly DLG Masga show off the toys they received for this year's Toys for Tots at the Karidat office in Chalan Kanoa on Wednesday.

Angie V. Guerrero reiterated that it will be up to the parents to wrap the toys for their children to give them a sense of responsibility.

Guerrero disclosed that Tinian is also asking for any spare toys for their children. She said they plan to give extra toys to them, provided that they find a way to ship them. Tinian's Frances Diaz, she added, is now working on getting the Tinian delegation to pay for the shipping cost.

"We thank everyone to all those who contributed toys for the Toys for Tots. Thank you for spreading Christmas cheers to the less fortunate. It's overwhelming to know that people are still willing to assist in this difficult time," Masga said.

"Christmas is a time for sharing," said Guerrero. "The toy drive efforts are a reflection that there is hope in this world that we live in and that there are still good people around."

of SHRM members, businesses, and organizations took part. Individuals, some of whom wanted to remain anonymous, also stopped by to drop off unwrapped toys.

Karidat executive director

## Convicted of immigration fraud, woman plans to seek a new trial

A woman recently found guilty of immigration document fraud in the U.S. district court plans to file a motion for acquittal or seek a new trial.

Rowena Agnes Urumelog, through counsel Mark Hanson, said she plans to file the motion for acquittal based on the evidence presented at trial, particularly the testimony of the U.S. government's sole witness.

Alternatively, they plan to file a motion for a new trial.

In Urumelog's motion for more time filed Wednesday in the U.S. District Court for the

NMI, Hanson said he believes that the transcript of the trial testimony will give the court the only proper record upon which to evaluate Urumelog's post-trial motions.

Hanson requested the court to grant them a one-week extension in which to file post-trial motions.

A federal jury found the 42-year-old Urumelog guilty of immigration document fraud when she lied in her petition for her second husband, a Bangladeshi national, that she has never filed a similar petition before. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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## 'Medicaid will remain with Executive Branch'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The operation of the Medicaid program will remain with the Executive Branch, according to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who disclosed Wednesday that he is now exploring ways on how the existing cap and matching requirements could be removed.

Medicaid is a federal/state program administered by the states and funded by both federal and state revenues through 50-50 matching funds.

The annual federal cap for the CNMI is \$5 million, which requires an equal amount from the CNMI government. Any expense in excess of \$10 million is shouldered by the CNMI. To date, this program has 18,000 beneficiaries.

Fitial disclosed during a visit to the Commonwealth Health Center Wednesday that his administration is in constant talks with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta on how to remove the federal cap.

Babauta said that CNMI will explore a federal law where the Commonwealth may qualify for critical access, thus removing the federal cap or matching requirements. However, Babauta said there are challenges that they will have to face, including justifying CHC as a "rural hospital."

"If we can qualify under that designation, they can provide us 100 percent reimbursement on Medicaid, which means no cap and no matching funds. But we have to go through a process and this where the governor plays an important role because of his personal relationship with federal officials [in Region 9]," said Babauta.

"The designation [of rural hospital] is the best option for us," added Fitial.

Fitial and Babauta will participate in the regional conference with federal agencies on March 1-2, 2012, of which this item will be among the agenda.

Babauta earlier urged the Legislature to conduct a thorough oversight on the Medicaid program because it continues to certify eligible recipients even without enough funds. This results in a big shortfall for the corporation and the government.

CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan earlier said the \$5 million cap for Medicaid has already been removed and the reimbursement ratio has been changed. From just \$40 million from 2011 to 2019, the CNMI is now eligible for \$140 million during that same period, Sablan said. The CNMI expects to get this fiscal year \$18.233 million in Medicaid grants, he added.



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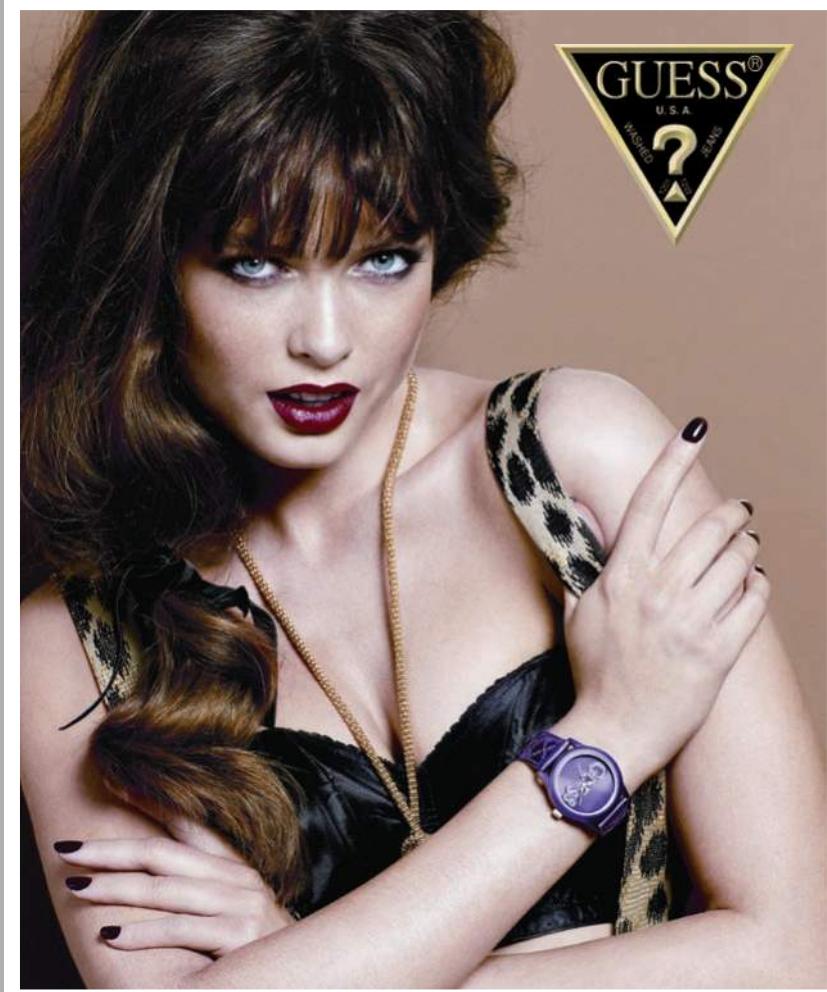
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 COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**IUMC invites public to Christmas services**

The Immanuel United Methodist Church is inviting everyone to its Carols & Lessons Service on Dec. 24, 2011, at 7pm, and to its Christmas Sunday Service on Dec. 25, 2011, at 10:30pm.

Both events will be celebrated by the whole congregation at the church's location on Chalan Kanoa Street and Barbara Avenue in Chalan Kanoa.

The Rev. Thomas Choi from the Hawaii District and The Rev. Mary An Swenson, Cal-Pac Annual Conference will be joining the congregation. For more information, call 322-6158. (PR)

**Notice to retirees**

If you have received a notice of adverse action from the NMI Retirement Fund, you have only

30 days from the date of the notice to respond to the adverse action.

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc., or NMPASI, might be able to assist you. NMPASI was founded to protect the civil, legal, and human interest of individuals with disabilities and also has limited funding to assist man'amko (persons who are 55 years of age or older).

You can contact NMPASI at 235-7273 or 235-7274 (telephone), 235-7275 (fax), 235-7278 (TTY) or via our website at [www.nmpasi.org](http://www.nmpasi.org) or come to our office on Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan. (NMPASI)

**Public library closed on Saturdays**

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Li-

brary will be closed on Dec. 24 and 31 in observance of Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. For more information, contact 235-READ (7323) or 7322 or visit us at [www.cnmilibrary.com](http://www.cnmilibrary.com). (PR)

**Military training on Farallon de Medinilla**

The U.S. military will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla today, Dec. 23, 7am, to Dec. 24, midnight. The public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

# Shirley's Coffee Shop comes up with Christmas meal promotion

Christmas is truly the season for giving and Shirley's Coffee Shop is staying true to the tradition with its yuletide promotion.

Dubbed Shirley's Coffee Shop Christmas Special Meal package, customers only need to pay \$19.95 to enjoy a complete lunch or dinner set consisting of six pieces of the restaurant's lip-smacking fried chicken, succulent sliced ham leg, a serving of Shirley's famous fried rice, and baked macaroni.

As an added treat, customers who order the Christmas Special Meal can also take home freebies—either a Shirley's Coffee Shop mug or an eco bag—while supplies last.

"This is our own little way of thanking our customers and wishing them a Merry Christmas this holiday season," said Shirley's Coffee Shop purchasing manager Rey Lingcaso.

The Shirley's Coffee Shop Christmas Special Meal is available for take-out only on

Dec. 24 at its Garapan branch on the first floor of Century Hotel until supplies last; and until 10pm at its Susupe branch across Mt. Carmel Church.

Founded in 1992, Shirley's Coffee Shop Saipan has been serving the best of Chamorro, Filipino, and American cuisines in generous servings.

To order the special meal in advance, call the Garapan restaurant at 233-4519 to 20 or the Susupe branch at 235-5379 to 80. (PR)

**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT**

Happy 4th birthday to Jameela Leann P. Mingefiy! You are always thought of in a very special way, and you're wished the finest things in life today and everyday! Best wishes and God bless! We love you!

This shoutout comes from mom Jaim, A.C, Bing, Nate, mom Dali, grandma, grandpa, and the entire family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to our angel, Bryanna Mae Cabrera Camacho! Congratulations on your first year of life on earth! Greetings come from Daddy, Mommy, Britney, nina Arlene, and family.

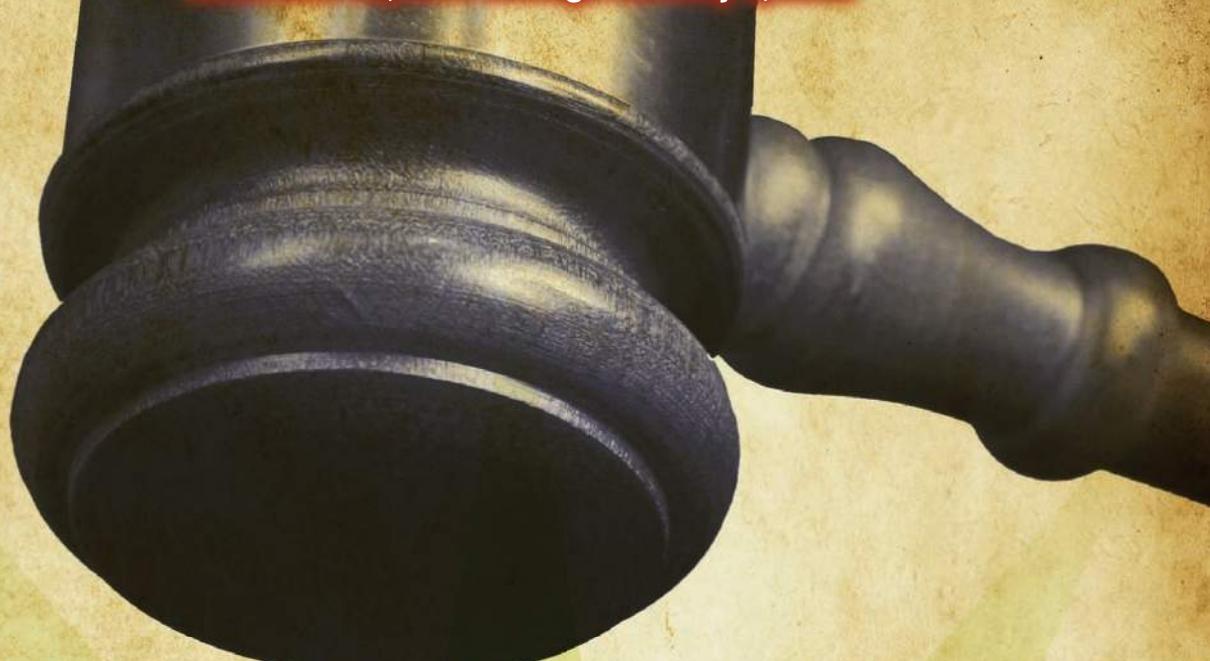
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**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS**  
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PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2012 • TIME: 10:00 AM  
**NMHC RFP 2011-013**

**DEVELOPER'S PROPOSAL ON NMHC'S GARAPAN ANNEX PROPERTIES**

Proposal packets will be available on December 27, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) shall be the sole judge as to which proposals best meet the selection criteria. The NMHC reserves, at its sole discretion, the right to reject any or all proposals received, to waive any submission requirements contained within this RFP, or to waive any irregularities in any submitted proposal.

ALL RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2012 – 10:00 AM for consideration. Any late responses will not be accepted. All proposals, including attachments, supplementary materials, addenda, etc. shall become the property of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation and will not be returned.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer /s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director Division of Procurement & Supply

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
  - d. Adoption on Minutes: November 3, 2011 Regular Board Meeting November 21, 2011 Regular Board Meeting
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
  - a. USDA RD SUTA Update
  - b. Financial & Compliance Audit For FY2011 & FY2012 Intend to Award Update
  - c. Administrative Matters: Personnel & Budget – FY2012
- IV. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
  - a. Deferment Agreement (HOME Funds)
  - b. Lease to Own Agreement (Foreclosed Upon Properties)
  - c. Purchase Proposal- Lot No. 003 D 16
  - d. Update on NMHC-Owned Properties through Auction
  - e. Other Loan Matters- REOs for Approved Home Loan Clients
  - f. All Loan Programs - Performing/Delinquency over 30 days & Litigation Report as of November 30, 2011
  - g. Chart for all Delinquency Report as of November 30, 2011
  - h. Wells Fargo Loan Assignment
- V. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
  - a. CDBG Update
- VI. PROGRAM & HOUSING
  - a. Program and Housing Division Update
- VII. FISCAL AFFAIRS
  - a. FY 2012 Financial Statement as of November 30, 2011
- VIII. FIELD REPORT
  - a. Tinian Field Office Reports – Section 8 & Voucher Program Status Report
  - b. Rota Field Office Reports – Section 8 & Voucher Program Status Report
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- X. OTHER MATTERS
  - a. Request For proposal For Garapan Annex
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

MARCI M. TOMOKANE  
Chairwoman of the Board

# Business

## Economy ends tough 2011 on a surprising upswing

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The economy is ending 2011 on a roll.

The job market is healthier. Americans are spending lustily on holiday gifts. A long-awaited turnaround for the depressed housing industry may be under way. Gas is cheaper. Factories are busier. Stocks are higher.

Not bad for an economy faced with a debt crisis in Europe and, as recently as last summer, scattered predictions of a second recession at home. Instead, the economy has grown faster each quarter this year, and the last three months should be the best.

"Things are looking up," says Chris Rupkey, chief financial economist at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ.

When The Associated Press surveyed 43 economists in August, they pegged the like-

lihood of another recession at roughly one in four. The Dow Jones industrial average was lurching up or down by 400 points or more some days.

There was plenty of reason for gloom. A political standoff over the federal borrowing limit brought the United States to the brink of default and cost the nation its top-drawer credit rating.

Most analysts now rule out another recession. They think the economy will grow at an annual rate of more than 3 percent from October through December, the fastest pace since a 3.8 percent performance in the spring of last year.

Many economists still worry that the year-end surge isn't sustainable, in part because the average worker's pay is barely rising. And Europe may already be sliding into a recession that will infect the United States.

The outlook could darken

further if Congress can't break the impasse blocking an extension of a Social Security tax cut for 160 million Americans and emergency unemployment benefits.

Yet for now, the economy

is on an upswing that few had predicted:

**JOBS:** The number of people applying for unemployment benefits came in at 366,000 last week, down from a peak of 659,000 in March

2009. Even in good economic times, the figure would be between 280,000 and 350,000.

Employers have added at least 100,000 jobs five months in a row, the longest streak since 2006. And the unemployment

rate fell from 9 percent in October to 8.6 percent last month, the lowest since March 2009.

Small businesses are hiring again, too, according to the National Federation of Independent Business.

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**Obama to Boehner: Two-month tax cut only option**

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Careening toward a politically toxic tax hike, President Barack Obama implored House Speaker John Boehner on Wednesday to get behind a two-month stopgap until a longer deal could be struck early next year, calling it the only real way out of a mess that is threatening the paychecks of 160 million workers and isolating House Republicans. In a weary Washington, the outreach accomplished little. All sides seemed to end the day where they began, with heavy political and economic consequences at stake. Boehner remained insistent on a full-year extension of the existing payroll tax cut before Jan. 1, urging Obama to haul Senate Democrats back to town to talk to his chosen negotiators. "Let's get this done today," Boehner told Obama, according to a speaker's aide, who required anonymity to characterize a private conversation.

### White Castle burger chain considers alcohol sales

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** (AP)—White Castle, a 90-year-old hamburger chain known for its square "slider" burgers, is sipping on the idea of offering alcoholic beverages as it tests beer and wine sales at a restaurant in Indiana. The food famously craved by stoners in the 2004 movie "Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle" can be had with a glass of wine or a domestic or seasonal beer at a Lafayette, Ind., restaurant that fuses a conventional White Castle with a new concept for the company called Blaze Modern BBQ. Wine costs \$4.50 and beers start at \$3. "This

*Wishing you and yours the many blessings and joys of the holiday season.*

*Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!*

*~ Kilili and Family*



Paid for by Kilili for Congress

# Nation

## Crews expand search area for missing Maine toddler

**WATERVILLE, Maine** (AP)—The area being searched for a missing 20-month-old girl in Maine is being expanded

to include trails and more waterways, and the number of tips from the public has grown to more than 160, police said

Wednesday.

A stream has already been drained in the search for Ayla Reynolds, and Waterville

Police Chief Joseph Massey said additional waterways will be checked as the area grows outward from the



girl's house. The Maine Marine Patrol is searching the Kennebec River.

Fifty trained volunteers from the Maine Search and Rescue Association were joining 75 to 80 law enforcement officers already participating in the search, which entered the fifth day on Wednesday, he said.

Searchers have looked through trash bins and even lowered portions of Messalonskee Stream, looking for signs of Ayla. The FBI continued Wednesday to go door-to-door in a "knock and talk" campaign.

About 70 people gathered late Wednesday afternoon in the First Congregational Church for a candlelight vigil.

## 2 women share 1st kiss at US Navy ship's return

**VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.**

(AP)—A Navy tradition caught up with the repeal of the U.S. military's "don't ask, don't tell" rule on Wednesday when two women sailors became the first to share the coveted "first kiss" on the pier after one of them returned from 80 days at sea.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Marissa Gaeta of Placerville, Calif., descended from the USS Oak Hill amphibious landing ship and shared a quick kiss in the rain with her partner, Petty Officer 3rd Class Citlalic Snell

of Los Angeles. Gaeta, 23, wore her Navy dress uniform while Snell, 22, wore a black leather jacket, scarf and blue jeans. The crowd screamed and waved flags around them. "It's something new, that's for sure," Gaeta told reporters after the kiss.

"It's nice to be able to be myself. It's been a long time coming."

There was little to differentiate this kiss from countless others when a Navy ship pulls into its home port following a deployment.

During this holiday season, may your hearts be merry and full of love and may the blessings of the New Year bring you peace, health, and prosperity.

Wishing you a festive holiday season and New Year!

From Rep. Joseph M. Palacios, Family, and Staff

## Monika's Furniture One Day Christmas Sale

DECEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> ONLY 10AM-7PM

PAINTINGS, CLOTHING, BAGS, JEWELRY, STATUES, CURTAINS, LAMPS, HOME DECOR & TEAK FURNITURE

EVERYTHING WILL BE ON SALE.  
GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE.

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Located in Gualo Rai, middle road next to Chong's Refrigeration | Tel# 233-4402

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Beds, sofas, Dining Sets, Cabinets, Office Table, Executive Chair, Drawers and more

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Customize Curtains, Sofas, Satins, Bamboo Blinds, Futon, and Aluminum Drapes

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Vinyl Floor Tiles, Floor Mats, Linoleum and Area Rugs

**Cushion and Mattress Foam**  
Any sizes with 1/2", 1", 2" & 4" thickness

**Pots and Vases**  
Plastic Flower Pots, Clay Pots, Glass Vases, Ceramic Vases, Etc.

**CNMI Cheapest Price!!!**

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# Asia

## No Christmas at home for detained ex-PH leader



In this Dec. 9, 2011 file photo, former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo poses in her hospital suite at St. Luke's Medical Center in Taguig near Manila, Philippines.

### North Korean transition appears smooth so far

**PYONGYANG, North Korea** (AP)—North Korea's power transition to Kim Jong Il's young son appeared to be going smoothly Thursday, with state media calling him "outstanding leader" and no signs of unrest on the capital's streets or unusual troop movements.

Foreign governments have focused intense scrutiny on North Korea since Kim's death was announced Monday, because of concerns over his uncontested heir's rise in a country with a nuclear program, 1.2-million strong military and a history deep animosity toward its neighbors.

Tens of thousands of North Koreans continued to mourn on Pyongyang's streets for the man who led the country for 17 years as it struggled with famine and

exasperated the United States and its allies with a steady push to build nuclear weapons. State media said

U.S. and South Korean military officials said there had been no unusual military movements by the North Koreans in recent days.

"This appears to be a relatively smooth transition on the peninsula, and we hope it stays that way," Pentagon spokesman George Little said in Washington, adding that there has been no increase in force protection levels for U.S. troops in South Korea.

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, meanwhile, sought to assure Pyongyang that his country was "not hostile" toward its neighbor despite putting its front-line troops on alert since Kim's death was announced.

#### ASIAN BRIEFS

##### UN appeals for \$28M for Philippine flood victims

**ILIGAN, Philippines** (AP)—The United Nations is appealing for \$28 million to help the Philippines respond to the needs of half a million people in the wake of last week's flash floods. More than 1,000 have been confirmed dead. U.N. humanitarian coordinator Soe Nyunt-U compared the destruction in two southern coastal cities to a tsunami. He raised concern about disease outbreaks among the thousands living in evacuation centers after their houses were washed away last Friday when a tropical storm unleashed flash floods. He told reporters in Manila on Thursday that the funds will be used for water, food, shelter and essential household

items for the next three months.

##### Fluffy the crocodile survives being hit by bus

**CANBERRA, Australia** (AP)—A young crocodile named Fluffy is back to her cranky old self after being hit by a bus while duck hunting in a city in northern Australia, a veterinarian said on Thursday. The 4-foot, 3-inch (1.3-meter) saltwater crocodile underwent emergency surgery and then spent 11 days recovering in the Marlin Coast Veterinary Hospital after the late night accident in a beachside suburb of Cairns, Doug English said. "It was pretty dopey for a couple of days and then it got fairly cranky so obviously it was feeling a lot better," English said.

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—A Philippine court rejected on Wednesday requests by arrested ex-President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to celebrate Christmas at home and use her cellphone and computer in detention, underscoring recent stunning reversals for a woman once considered among the world's most powerful.

Judge Jesus Mupas of the Pasay Regional Trial Court cited security reasons for denying Arroyo's request to leave a military hospital where she is detained on electoral fraud charges. She wanted to celebrate Christmas

and New Year at her upscale home in the capital.

But she obtained small concessions. Mupas allowed her family, children and grandchildren to celebrate the holidays with her in her heavily guarded hospital suite from Dec. 24 to 26 and Dec. 31 to Jan. 2. She will also be allowed to watch TV, listen to the radio, attend Mass and get an hour of sunshine each day.

"The court is not inclined to grant (Arroyo) a Christmas furlough," Mupas said in his order. He said he was allowing her family to visit because "the court

is fully aware of the fact that everybody wants to be with his loved ones during Christmas."

Court sheriff Rodelio Buenaventura said Arroyo was upset when he relayed the order to her.

"We are saddened but we will follow," Arroyo lawyer Ferdinand Topacio told reporters. "I was just hoping that the judge will see through his heart that this is a season for unity and forgiveness."

Arroyo's Nov. 18 arrest curtailed her rights even though she remains a member of the House of Representatives, Mupas said.

Mupas had ordered Arroyo's arrest on Nov. 18 in her hospi-

tal room, where she had sought treatment for a bone ailment, on suspicion of ordering the rigging of 2007 senatorial elections to favor her candidates. She has denied any wrongdoing and has hired a battery of lawyers.

Last month, the Supreme Court lifted a travel ban on her, and she attempted to leave the country with her husband. President Benigno Aquino III's justice secretary, however, defied the Supreme Court order and directed airport authorities to stop her from leaving, fearing she might try to escape from prosecution.

*Wishing you & your loved ones much happiness & good health this holiday season.*

**Brabu**  
Pharmacy and Wellness Center

Business Hours: Mon - Fri (9am - 6pm) · Sat (9am - 10pm) · Sun (CLOSED)  
Business Holiday Hours: Sat (Dec 24th 9am until 1:00pm) · Closed Mon (Dec 26th)

**Brabu Pharmacy and Wellness Center, LLC**

# World

## Activists say Syrian troops kill 100 in village

BRUCE L. MAILMAN, #F0153  
MAILMAN & KARA, LLC  
PMB 238 PPP, Box 10,000  
Saipan, MP 96950-8900  
Telephone: 233-0081  
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0295
Plaintiff,	
-v-	
FRANCISCO E. SANTOS,	COMPLAINT
Defendant.	

- Jurisdiction of this matter is vested in this Honorable Court by virtue of Commonwealth Const. Art. 4, Sec. 2, and by virtue of the provisions of Section 3202 of the Commonwealth Judicial Reorganization Act of 1989.
- Plaintiff is Wells Fargo Financial, Inc., a corporation licensed to transact the business of financing within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Defendant Francisco E. Santos is a United States citizen and a person of Northern Marianas descent residing at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.
- On or about August 9, 2007 defendant executed a Promissory Note ("the Note") in favor of plaintiff in the amount of \$35,873.82, plus interest at 8.63% per annum. A true and correct copy of the Note is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by this reference.
- The Note was secured by a Real Property Mortgage ("the Mortgage"), executed by defendant on August 9, 2007, and recorded on the same day as file no. 07-1755 at the office of the Commonwealth Recorder, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated by this reference. The Mortgage secured repayment of the Note, and pledged to Plaintiff the following real property located at Salapan, Northern Mariana Islands, known as Lot 373-3-5-1, which is more particularly described in the Mortgage as:

LOT 373-3-5-1 (FORMERLY PART OF LOT 373-3-5, WHICH WAS PART OF LOT 373-3, WHICH WAS PART OF LOT 373, TD 151), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2059/06, the original of which was recorded on June 9, 2006 as Document No. 06-1424 at the office of the Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

- Defendant is in default on the Note, in that he has not made all the payments provided for therein to be made.
- On or about August 18, 2011 plaintiff, through counsel, dispatched notice of default of the note to Mr. Santos by US Postal Service certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice of default was in both the English and Chamorro languages. A true and correct copy of the notice of default in both languages, with the return receipt dated September 20, 2011, are attached hereto collectively as Exhibit C and incorporated by this reference.
- Pursuant to the terms of the Note and the provisions of 2 CMC §4534(d), the entire outstanding principal balance of the loan is now due and owing by defendant to plaintiff, together with interest, as follows:

Outstanding principal balance: \$ 31,310.63  
Amount due for interest through  
10/31/2011: \$ 1,733.85  
Daily accruing interest from and after  
11/1/2011: \$ 7.51

Daily accruing interest is calculated by the formula (\$33,244.48 x 8.63%) / 365.

- Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Note and the Mortgage, defendant is additionally obligated to plaintiff for reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in collection of the Note and prosecution of the herein complaint, in amounts as yet undetermined but still accruing.

- Notwithstanding demand, Mr. Santos has failed, refused and neglected, and still fails, refuses and neglects to pay the amounts due to plaintiff.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment against defendant, as follows:

- Against defendant Francisco E. Santos, the principal sum of \$31,310.63; plus accrued interest at the rate of 8.63% per annum to October 31, 2011 in the amount of \$1,733.85; plus accrued interest thereon at the rate of 8.63% per annum from and after November 1, 2011, in the amount of \$7.51 per day;

- Against defendant Francisco E. Santos, for reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit; and for other costs allowed pursuant to the terms of the Note and the Mortgage;

- Against defendant Francisco E. Santos, for interest on the total of all amounts included in the judgment sought by this complaint, at the maximum rate provided by law from the date of judgment;

- Against defendant Francisco E. Santos, ordering that if the judgment is not paid in full within three months after its date, Lot 373-3-5-1 shall be sold in accordance with law and the proceeds of said sale, after deducting expenses thereof, shall be applied to payment of the balance due upon judgment, and for reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit, and other costs allowed by the Note and the Mortgage; and

- For such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

DATED, this 31ST day of October, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

MAILMAN & KARA, LLC  
/s/ BRUCE L. MAILMAN, F0153  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.

BEIRUT (AP)—As government troops advanced on a village in northwestern Syria, activists say the terrified residents fled into a valley for fear of being arrested or worse. What happened next, one of the activists said, was "an organized massacre."

The troops surrounded the valley and unleashed a barrage of rockets, tank shells, bombs and gunfire in an hours-long assault, according to two human rights groups and a witness, killing more than 100 people and leaving no survivors in one of the bloodiest days of a

The United Nations says more than 5,000 people have died since March as Syria has sought to put down the uprising—part of the Arab Spring of protests that has toppled long-serving unpopular leaders in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya.

crackdown by President Bashar Assad against a nine-month popular uprising.

The White House said it was "deeply disturbed" by Tuesday's attack. France called it a "murderous spiral," and the Arab League reminded the Assad regime of its responsibilities to protect its civilians.

Members of Syria's opposition said the bloodshed outside the village of Kfar Owaïd, about 30 miles from the northern border with Turkey in Idlib province, was evidence of the authoritarian leader's intent to intensify its crackdown on the uprising before Arab League observers arrive in the country Thursday. The death toll from two days of violence this week topped 200, including up to 70 army defectors killed near the city of Idlib, the activists said.

"It was an organized massacre," said Rami Abdul-Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory

for Human Rights, a British-based activist group. "The troops surrounded people, then killed them."

Kfar Owaïd is part of the rugged mountainous region of Jabal al-Zawiyah, the scene of clashes between troops and army defectors, as well as weeks of intense anti-government protests.

One Kfar Owaïd villager who is an anti-government activist told The Associated Press by telephone that scores of residents and activists had fled to the nearby Budnaya Valley ahead of the advancing troops. He said the security forces had

lists of names of those who organized massive anti-regime protests recently in the village.

Those who fled to the valley were completely surrounded by troops, said the activist, who identified himself only as Abu Rabih for fear of government reprisal. The troops then opened fire with tanks, rockets and heavy machine guns, he said, adding that they also used bombs filled with nails to increase the number of casualties.

He said 110 people were killed in the attack, with 56 of them buried in Kfar Owaïd on Wednesday. Others were buried in nearby villages.

Abdul-Rahman corroborated the Kfar Owaïd witness account. The group, which uses a network of local activists to collect information on the crackdown, said 111 people from the village were killed Tuesday.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Egypt's army rulers hike tone against protesters

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's ruling military escalated its tone against pro-democracy activists Wednesday, warning of an attempt to "topple the state," as government media said a plot had been uncovered to use upcoming protests to throw the country into a civil war. The statements stepped up a campaign by the military that has seemed intended to demonize protesters in the eyes of the Egyptian public. The warnings could signal a heavier crackdown on activists who demand that the generals who took power after the fall of Hosni Mubarak in February step down to let civilians rule. They come after more than four days of heavy clashes as soldiers tried to break up protests outside parliament and the Cabinet headquarters in a crackdown that killed 14 people and left hundreds injured.

#### Police find severed head of Jamaica gangster

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—Jamaican investigators on Wednesday found the severed head and bullet-riddled body of a man they believe was a high-ranking member of a notorious drug-and-extortion gang known for beheading victims. A police statement said the bloody head was found Wednesday along a commercial strip in Spanish Town, a southern city where violent gangs are deeply entrenched and authorities impose frequent curfews. The head, which investigators say matches Navardo Hodges of the Clansman gang, had a bullet wound in the middle of the forehead, common of gangland executions in the troubled area. A headless body with gunshot wounds was found spayed on a nearby street.

## APARTMENT AND CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT Promo Extended

Until December 31, 2011 (for 1 year contract)

### GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

1-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - \$650.00 NOW \$500.00 ~  
2-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - \$850.00 NOW \$650.00 ~  
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

#### LOCATION:

Lower Miha, GARAPAN, where 747 Dining & Bar is situated

#### AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Free moving-service
- Laundry facility
- On-duty security guard at night
- On-site maintenance
- Parking space
- Swimming pool

### PASTEL INN APARTMENT

STUDIO-TYPE : REG PRICE - \$350.00 NOW \$250.00 ~  
2-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - \$550.00 NOW \$400.00 ~  
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

#### LOCATION:

SAN JOSE, right next to Roshi's Store (along Beach Rd)

#### AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Free moving-service
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Broad parking space (front area and backside)
- Spacious yard
- Swimming pool w/ BBQ area

### ANAKS OCEAN VIEW HILL SAIPAN

AVAILABLE UNITS:  
2-Bedroom and 3-Bedroom  
PRICE depends upon the type of unit  
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

#### LOCATION:

PUERTO RICO, close to Bank of Hawaii

#### AMENITIES:

- 24-hr drinkable (Reverse Osmosis) water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit
- Free moving-service
- Parking space
- Swimming pool
- Tennis court
- Washer and Dryer in the unit

### SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

AVAILABLE UNITS:  
Studio-type and 1-Bedroom  
**PRICE ranges from \$350.00~**  
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

#### LOCATION:

Lower Miha, GARAPAN, nearby 747 Dining & Bar

#### AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Free moving-service
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Parking space

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#### AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
-



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-12-005

#### PROCUREMENT & INSTALLATION OF LED STREET LIGHTS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the procurement and installation of Light Emitting Diodes (LED) Street Lights on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA).

The Bid Packet may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 4, 2012 at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-12-005, Procurement and Installation of Light Emitting Diodes (LED) Street Lights" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 19, 2012 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety firm holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety firm must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety firm must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 9, 2012 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Mr. Alfredo Palattao, Power Division Engineer via email [alfred.palattao@cucgov.org](mailto:alfred.palattao@cucgov.org) and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Administrative Assistant, Procurement & Supply via email [mika.muna@cucgov.org](mailto:mika.muna@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE  
Executive Director

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Caller Box 10007  
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 664-2375  
Fax: (670) 664-2408

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL A&E DESIGN of the KALABERA CAVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MARPI, SAIPAN RFP12-GOV-022

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Architectural & Engineering Design of the Kalabera Cave Development Project, located on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The complete Scope of Work for the A&E services required will be available on Monday, December 05, 2011, at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (US \$50.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. Questions regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, or fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4:00 p.m. ChST December 20, 2011.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and a Schedule of Completion, addressing the Scope of Work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished by the consultants, with the names of the responsible persons identified. Proposers shall also submit a statement of qualifications with resumes and experience for the responsible persons. The total proposal length shall not exceed fifty (50) pages in length, inclusive of resumes and previous project descriptions. Note that a firm which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, the consultant may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. Qualifications and Background of the Company(s) and proposed assigned personnel | - 25% |
| 2. Past experience of the consultant on design of similar projects                 | - 25% |
| 3. Project Approach and Schedule for Completion                                    | - 25% |
| 4. Demonstrated capability of ability to perform the work required                 | - 25% |
| 5. Fee Proposal  | - 0%  |

Performance time for completion of the A&E Design is One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed and shall be the greater of (i) two hundred dollars (US\$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by the number of calendar days of the contract time, the contract time and contract price being determined at the time of the assessment of liquidated damages for each and every day beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "RFP12-GOV-022, A&E Design of the Kalabera Cave Development Project". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, January 04, 2012. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, January 04, 2012, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, January 04, 2012, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than January 17, 2012 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos, Lieutenant Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

#### Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana Ofisinan I Gubietno Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

##### NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 047 L 02, containing an area of approximately 49,000 square meters, more or less, situated in Naftan, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
  - ii. The prospective lessee is Eco Island Development, LLC. The Members of the Limited Liability Company are Mr. Herman P. Sablan and Ms. Shen Yen.
  - iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Herman P. Sablan.
  - iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and managing a solar photovoltaic power plant.
- The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.
- The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.
- v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
  - vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Naftan, Saipan.
  - vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before January 5, 2012 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

##### NUTISIA PUT MAPROPONIN INEKSTENDIN INATKILON TANU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106(b) gi Lain Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku guini ha nā'i nutisia ni intension-ña para u mana'ma'atkila' pumalu na tånu' pupbliku siha giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha. Maseha hāyi na pattida siha gi halum i pupbliku heneråt siha ha nā'hålum i imfotmasion, opíñon, pat testamoñun kinentra siha gi tinahguin propositu siha ni para i atkilon tånu' pupbliku. Sigi más mo'na mapribeniyyi ginin i Lain Pupbliku 15-2, i tinattitiyi pettanesin imfotmasion ni madimånda ni debi na u mapupblika.

- i. I maproponi na atkilon tånu' pupbliku ha diskribi kumu Lot No. Lot No. 047 L 02, ni kinonsisti ária kåsi guaha 49,000 square meters, más pat menus, ni gaigi giya Naftan, Saipan. I kopian i lugåt gaigi gi pumalu na gumuaha gi Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku siha ni para i rikunosimentu.
  - ii. I manatkikila i Eco Island Development, LCC. I miemburu siha gi Liability Company si Siñot Herman P. Sablan yan si Siñora Shen Yen.
  - iii. I maproponi na atkilon manigosiu gi as Siñot Herman P. Sablan.
  - iv. I manatkikila debi na u kuntinuha umusa i lugåt siha uniku para i hinangai adilåntu yan minanehan solar photovoltaic power plant.
- I teman i maproponi na kuntråtan atkilon sa' 25 åñus, yan option para u ma'ekstendi i atkilon gi ta'lú 15 åñus.
- I maproponi na åpas atkilon gi sakkan gi duråntin i tema sigun gi percentage gi appraised fair market value gi propiedåt.
- v. Kopian i manmaproponi na kontråtan atkilon siha machuli' gi ufisinan i Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku siha, gaigi gi sigundu bibienda 2nd floor gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; gi Songsong Village, Luta; pat i primet 1st bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
  - vi. I Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku siha tåya' na ha risibi tinahguin propositu siha para sinuhetun atkilon tanu' pupbliku siha giya Naftan, Saipan.
  - vii. I Sekritariu i Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku siha debi na u aksepta i tinig'i i imfotmasion, opíñon yan testamoñun kinentra pat tinahguin propositu siha ginin i manggai interes na pattida siha gi pat ántis di Ineru (January) 5, 2012 gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku siha ni gaigi Saipan, Luta, pat Tinian.

##### ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106(b) mellól Alléghul Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwel Falúweer Toulap, ekke atotooww ammataf igha ebwe akkilaol eghús faltuw mellól Seipel, Commonwealth Téel Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka remuschál emwal rebwe sisilong yaar mágemáng, data awewe, me angíngi reel pomwol akkilon falúweer toulap. Sengi Alléghul Toulap ye 15-2, ebwal ayoora, lamal awewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikkha ebwe akkateélo.

- i. Pomwol akkilon falúweer toulap nge ekke bwáári Lot No. 047 L 02 ebwe yoar faaigh me tiwoow saangaras lapol (49,000 square meters) elapélo me ngáre eghús, elo Naftan, Seipel. Tilighal bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngáre óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- ii. Schéschél schól akkilon nge Eco Islands Development, LLC. Membrol Limited Liability Company yeel nge Mr. Herman P. Sablan me Ms. Shen Yen.
- iii. Schól aweweey akkilon yeel nge Mr. Herman P. Sablan.
- iv. Schól akkilon ebwe yáyá faluw yeel rel ebwe ayoora me mwóghutagheli solar photovoltaic power plant.

Tool aighúghul pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoo ráagh (25 years). Emmwel rebwe bwal sóóbwey ngáli seigh me limoo ráagh (15 years).

Pomwol méel akkilon lól ráagh kka re akkilali nge ebwe mwiril sángi percentage il yaal appraised fair market value il faluw.

Tilighal akkilon yeel nge emmwel óubwe bwughi merel bwulasiyool Ammwel Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwonal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Tutaram, Seipél; Songsong village, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúluyó.

- v. Bwulasiyool Ammwel Falúweer Toulap nge esál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Naftan, Seipél.
- vi. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwel Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughi ischil mágemáng, aingiingil merel amweýut mmwal Eneero (January) 5, 2012 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwel Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúluyó.

# Off The Wall

## OFFBEAT BRIEFS

### TSA: Daggers hidden in book at Reagan Airport

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Transportation Security Administration says officers found two throwing daggers hidden in a hollowed-out book at a checkpoint at Reagan-Washington National Airport. A TSA spokesman says a passenger was stopped Monday when officers found the knives in the person's carry-on bag. The daggers measured just over a half-foot long and were hidden in the hard-cover book. The passenger was flying to Chicago and surrendered the knives and book. The TSA has the authority to fine passengers who bring deadly weapons into the airport checkpoint. It was not known if this was done in this case. A spokesman for the airport did not immediately return a call for comment.

### Connecticut man proposes via holiday light display

**NORWICH, Conn.** (AP)—'Tis the season for a Connecticut man to propose to his girlfriend using a holiday light display. Jeremy Wilcox tells the Norwich Bulletin newspaper he and his mother spent about two hours putting the words "Will

you marry me?" in lights across a fence at the family home, which has traditionally been decorated with elaborate holiday scenes during the Christmas season. He popped the question to Elizabeth Caron on Dec. 10 by lighting up his proposal as she was viewing the decorations. He asked Caron to close her eyes while he plugged in the lights. When she opened them, he was on one knee holding the engagement ring. She said yes. They haven't set a wedding date.

### Curfew-breaking teen gets stuck in Calif. chimney

**STOCKTON, Calif.** (AP)—A California teenager has learned the hard way that he's no Santa Claus. The Stockton Record reports 18-year-old George Herrera got stuck in a chimney while trying to sneak into his house Thursday. Art Ray of the Stockton Fire Department says the teen was breaking curfew and trying to get inside his home. Ray says Herrera was trapped near the chimney bottom for about 90 minutes before emergency crews were called around 10:15 a.m. When they arrived, they could see his feet sticking out of the fireplace. Rays says

rescuers secured ropes around the teenager's wrists and pulled him up about 8 feet with the help of a firetruck ladder. Officials say Herrera wasn't hurt and was allowed to return home after the rescue, which took about 15 minutes.

### 2 cited for shoplifting become crime victims

**OGDEN, Utah** (AP)—Police in Utah say a vehicle was burglarized outside an Ogden store while its owners were being accused of shoplifting from the business. Police told the Standard-Examiner of Ogden and Deseret News that 36-year-old Eldon Alexander and 47-year-old Korin Vanhouten were released after being cited in the theft of small-ticket items worth about \$25 from a WinCo Foods store. Police say the two then walked into the parking lot and discovered the theft of a stereo amplifier, drum machine and other items valued at about \$60 from their vehicle. Investigators say the two flagged down the officer who cited them as he was leaving the store, and the officer took a crime report from them. The car burglary occurred while the officer's car was parked nearby.

# Science & Technology

## Speak up and these apps will listen and transcribe

By REID KANALEY  
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

You can cut snippets of voice and music, duplicate and rearrange them. Reviewers report hilarious results.

Whether you keep it straight or manipulate the audio, your work of sonic art can be shared by email, Facebook and Twitter or transferred to a nearby computer using a clever Wi-Fi trick that deposits the .wav audio file as a download—

An app called iSaidWhat?, by Danny Babiy, costs 99 cents for Apple devices and is designed for recording and editing sound.

### CU among schools snapping up .xxx domain names

**BOULDER, Colo.** (AP)—The University of Colorado has snapped up 27 .xxx domain names in an effort to prevent pornographers from exploiting the school's name and brands, but it failed in acquiring the Colorado.xxx name.

The Boulder Daily Camera reports Wednesday the domain

names the university purchased include UniversityofColorado.xxx, CU.xxx, Buffs.xxx, and GoldenBuffaloes.xxx.

The newly created .xxx suffix is the Internet's adults-only variation on .com.

Colorado.xxx, which is a variation of the school's Colorado.edu domain, was acquired

very handy for working with sound files you may need for school or work.

Voice Recorder HD, by eFUSION Co. Ltd., offers a simple interface with an image of a microphone, record-pause and stop buttons, and a time counter for the iPhone for \$1.99. It will save many hours of sound if you've chosen the "low" quality setting for your audio.

If you start recording and then hit the iPhone home button to move on to other tasks, the app will keep recording, as long as your phone's software is iOS4 or higher.

by Las Vegas brothel owner Edward Yeager.

Yeager told the Camera that he would offer the name to the University of Colorado for \$1,000.

University spokesman Ken McConnellogue says he's unsure whether the school will buy the domain from Yeager.

## Reawakened Prodigy email gushes spam

By STEVE ALEXANDER  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION:** Someone who didn't know my current email address sent an email to my old Prodigy.net email account, which I haven't used for eight years. Now everyone who was in my Prodigy contact list, and still uses the same email address, is being inundated with spam, some of it pornographic. How can I stop this?—Mike Haslmen, St. Paul, Minn.

**ANSWER:** My guess is that your Prodigy email account



was taken over by a hacker long ago, but because the account appeared to be dormant (and its contact list likely out of date) there was no perceived advantage in using it to send spam.

When your friend mistakenly sent an email to the old Prodigy.net account, whoever controls the account became convinced the account was active again, and began to use it to send spam to the emails in your Prodigy.net contact list.

There's not much you can do about the spam your friends are receiving. Since the Prodigy service is no longer available, there's

no company to contact about a long-inactive account. And, in any event, once a spammer has your friends' email addresses, you can't prevent the addresses from being used in the future.

The best you can do is advise your friends to send the Prodigy.net emails from your old account to their spam filters. Under no circumstances should they reply; that simply validates their email addresses and guarantees they'll get more spam.

**Q: I recently tried to download vacation photos from my Kodak EasyShare camera to my iMac computer. But iPhoto showed that the camera contained nothing but blue blocks where the photos should have been. A pop-up screen said the computer did not recognize the format of the camera's files.**

**I've downloaded more than 1,000 photos and never had this problem until now. Any ideas?—Jeff Carlson, Minneapolis**

**A:** Kodak says if your computer can't recognize the format of your photos, either the photos or the camera card is corrupted, meaning its data is no longer in the right sequence to be read.

Sometimes this happens for no apparent reason. In other cases, a photo can be corrupted if the memory card is used in another camera, or if a photo is edited on a computer and then stored again on the memory card. Photos can also be corrupted if a memory card is removed while the camera is still storing a picture on the card.

Kodak suggests reformatting the memory card—which erases everything—to make a clear start.

I suggest buying a new memory card instead, in case the original card is flawed.

## FIFTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of



## Maria (Dema) Demapan Sablan

We, the family, humbly invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the Fifth Year Death Anniversary of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass is being offered every morning, beginning Friday, December 16, 2011 at 6:00 a.m. at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

On the final day, Saturday, December 24th, Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 a.m.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

Un Sen Dangkulu Na Si Yu's Ma'aese  
Ginen I Familia

## 3rd Year Death Anniversary

Andrew J. Pangalinan

Lovingly known as  
"Scoobydrewbear",  
"Mountain Drew Mamu"  
and "Apprentice's CZ"

Three years ago our beloved Andrew had left all of us. he departed this earth to be with our Loving Father God and our Lord Jesus in heaven. Pains and sadness of our loss still lingers in our hearts. How deeply we miss him but all we can do is to pray. We are inviting all our relatives and friends and all Andrew's dear friends, classmates and teachers to please come and join us in prayers as we commemorate his 3rd Year Death Anniversary. Let my good and loving son "Andrew" know that we still remember him and will never forget him... as he left us a song.... "Please don't forget me".

Daily Mass will be offered at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm from December 26, 2011 to January 03, 2012. Final rosary will be prayed at 6:30pm on January 03, 2012 at Drew's house in Fina Sisu.

Your presence and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much.  
Drew's Mom and Family

# Life & Style

## 'The Iron Lady' shows Thatcher still divides Brits

**LONDON** (AP)—With hairdo, handbag and hubris, she dominated—and divided—Britain for a decade. Now a film about Margaret Thatcher is doing it all over again.

"The Iron Lady" stars Meryl Streep as Britain's first female prime minister, whose neo-Victorian values and free-market ideology helped transform a battered post-imperial country into an economically dynamic but industrially depleted and increasingly unequal society.

But it's the film's focus on the personal, rather than the political, that has made Thatcher's enemies apprehensive and her allies unhappy.

"The Iron Lady" depicts Thatcher, now 86, as a frail, elderly figure with dementia, holding imaginary conversations with her dead husband Dennis (a genial Jim Broadbent) as she looks back on her life as a double outsider—both a woman and a lowly grocer's daughter in a male-dominated, patrician Conservative Party.

Streep's eerily evocative, pitch-perfect performance looks likely to earn her a 17th Academy Award nomination and possibly a third acting Oscar. But the intimacy of the movie's portrait has led some Conservatives to accuse it of being disrespectful, distasteful, even faintly idolatrous. One lawmaker has demanded a parliamentary debate, telling the House of Commons he was disturbed by the film.

"I just wonder why the filmmakers had to go so heavily on the mental illness, the dementia side, when Baroness Thatcher has had a very important life in the politics of this country and the world," said Conservative legislator Rob Wilson.

"It left me wondering about the humanity of the filmmakers who are very subtly denigrating someone who was a great prime minister."

Thatcher rarely appears in public these days, and her inner circle releases little information about her health. But her daughter Carol—sympathetically portrayed in the film by Olivia Colman—wrote about her mother's dementia in a 2008 book.

Conservative grandee Norman Tebbit, a government minister under Thatcher, also criticized the film, saying the former prime minister was nothing like the "half-hysterical, overemotional, overacting woman portrayed by Meryl Streep"—though he admitted he was basing that judgment on the movie's trailer.

The film's director rejects the criticisms, but says she's not surprised by them.

"Those two words—Margaret Thatcher—are provocative in this country," said Phyllida Lloyd, a Briton who also directed Streep in the frothy Abba musical "Mamma Mia!"

"She still has the ability to set people on one another. People think of her either as

St. Margaret who saved the nation, or the she-devil who ruined the lives of millions and bred a culture of greed."

Both sides may find their conceptions challenged by the film, which opens in Australia and New Zealand on Monday, in the U.S. Dec. 30 and in Britain on Jan. 6.

"The left wing are nervous about being asked to feel compassion for someone they think they are supposed to hate," Lloyd said. "But all we are doing is making her human."

"And the right are questioning whether there is something shameful about putting her on the screen with this frailty. But that's if you feel frailty is shameful—and we don't."

Lloyd said she initially hesitated to take on such a polarizing figure. Then she read the script by Abi Morgan ("Brick Lane," "Shame"), and "realized it was not a political film at all."

She says it is something much more subversive—a film about an elderly woman.

"If the film is political it's in wanting to put an old lady at the center of a film," she said.

That approach makes "The Iron Lady" more a character study than a political or historical drama. It touches on a handful of episodes from her 1979-1990 tenure—the 1982 Falklands War, the 1984-85 miners' strike, the 1984 IRA bombing of the Conservative Party conference hotel in which



In this film image released by The Weinstein Company, Meryl Streep portrays Margaret Thatcher in "The Iron Lady."

five people died, and her eventual ousting after a rebellion by browbeaten Cabinet colleagues.

But this is not a film that makes viewers feel they are learning something new about recent and well-remembered events, in the way "The Queen" did with the aftermath of Princess Diana's death.

It is, instead, a portrait of aging and regret whose depiction of personal triumph and tragedy against a backdrop of state power has Shakespearean overtones.

Streep has called the film "Lear for girls"—founding ruler, faithful daughter, false friends—and there's also a touch of "Julius Caesar" in the story of a leader brought down by conspiring colleagues.

"It's a film about power and the loss of power," Lloyd said. "The cost of a huge life to oneself, one's family, one's colleagues"—and about how "our great strengths—conviction, certainty—can become our greatest flaws: hubris, inflexibility."

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### We Bought A Zoo

	Friday	4:10	7:10	9:30
	Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10
	Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson	Monday thru Thursday	1:10	4:10	7:10

Comedy drama • Rated PG

### Synopsis

A widower (Matt Damon) purchases a zoo in order to bring his family back together in this Twentieth Century Fox adaptation of Benjamin Mee's autobiographical memoir. Cameron Crowe (*Almost Famous*) writes and directs based on a script by Aline Brosh McKenna.

## COMING SOON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

### The Darkest Hour

	Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:40
Emile Hirsch, Olivia Thirlby	Monday thru Thursday	1:25	4:25	7:25	

Science fiction • Rated PG 13

### The Adventure of Tintin

	Friday	4:30	7:30	9:50
	Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30
	Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30

Jamie Bell, Andy Serkis  
Adventure • Rated PG

### Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol

	Friday	4:15	7:15	9:55
Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner	Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Spy film, Action • Rated PG 13	Monday thru Thursday	1:15	4:15	7:15

### The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo

	Friday	4:00	7:00	10:00
Daniel Craig, Rooney Mara	Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Thriller • Rated R	Monday thru Thursday	1:00	4:00	7:00

### Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked

	Friday	4:20	7:20	9:35
Jason Lee	Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Children's/family • Rated G	Monday thru Thursday	1:20	4:20	7:20

### Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows

	Friday	4:05	7:05	9:45
Robert Downey, Jr. Jude Law	Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Action, Mystery • Rated PG 13	Monday thru Thursday	1:05	4:05	7:05

### New Year's Eve

	Friday	4:25	7:25	9:40
Halle Berry, Robert De Niro, Ashton Kutcher	Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25

Comedy drama • Rated PG 13

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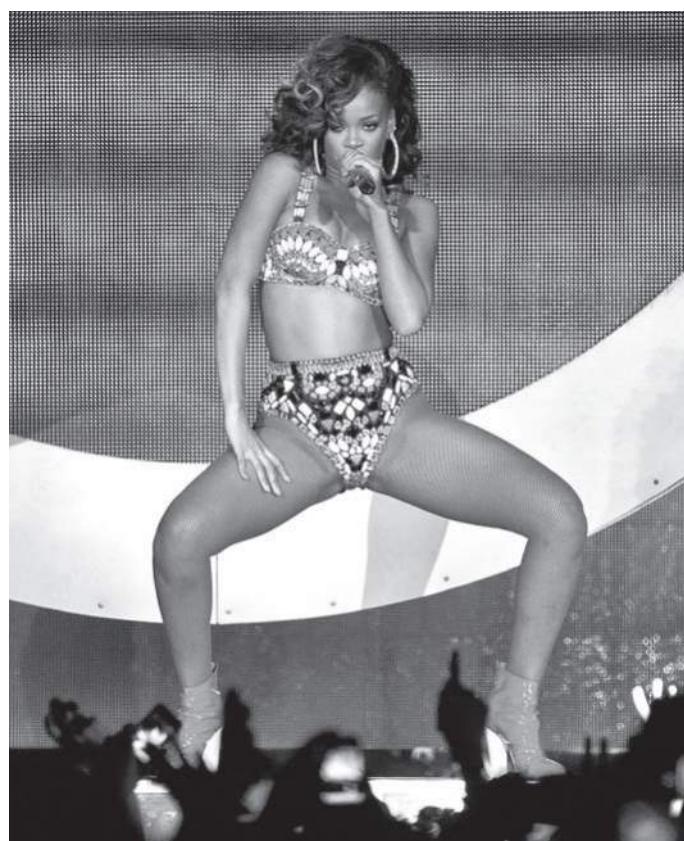
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# Editor ousted over racial slur against Rihanna

**AMSTERDAM** (AP)—The editor of a Dutch fashion magazine has been fired after the publication used a racial slur to refer to Barbados-born Rihanna, setting off a social media furor and prompting an outraged response from the singer.

Eva Hoeke, editor of “Jackie,” and the magazine’s publisher said in a joint statement on Facebook that the misuse of a racial slur—“although without malicious intentions”—was cause for Hoeke’s departure after eight years on the job.

The slur was used in an article about how to dress your daughter like a pop star. Responding to criticism that flashed across the ocean, Hoeke said at first that her use of the term was



AP

In this Oct. 5, 2011 file photo, singer Rihanna performs at the o2 arena in east London, as part of her 2011 “Loud” tour.

meant as a joke.

She then put out a Twitter item with a more explicit apology, saying she learned, “1. Don’t publish bad jokes in the magazine 2. Don’t pretend bad jokes to be funny. Sorry guys. My bad.”

On Tuesday, Rihanna responded herself via Twitter: “Your magazine is a poor representation of the evolution of human rights! I find you disrespectful, and rather desperate!!”

Rather than a positive article useful to Dutch girls, Rihanna said Jackie chose to print an item “degrading to an entire race. That’s your contribution to this world!” She also ended her tweet with an indelicate phrase.

Hoeke said she was unaware the word she used was so loaded because “you hear it all the time on radio and TV.”

By Wednesday, the Facebook apology had attracted hundreds of comments, many condemning Hoeke but some saying the reaction was overblown.

## Cowell backs Amaro to win ‘The X Factor’

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—“The X Factor” judges didn’t want to stop listening to Melanie Amaro.

The powerful 19-year-old vocalist from Sunrise, Fla., wowed the Fox talent competition’s panel with her rendition of Beyoncé’s “Listen” during Wednesday’s final performance round.

Simon Cowell declared that Amaro should win the show’s grand prize: a \$5 million recording contract and a starring role in a Pepsi commercial.

The judges also poured praise on the two other remaining

finalists: soulful 30-year-old single father Josh Krajcik of Wooster, Ohio, and 28-year-old rapper Chris Rene of Santa Cruz, Calif.

Krajcik belted out “At Last” for his final performance, while Rene delivered his original tune “Young Homie” with a group of backup dancers and singers.

The winner, which will be decided by viewer votes, will be announced on Thursday’s show.



AP

In this Nov. 30, 2011 file photo released by FOX, Melanie Amaro performs on the singing competition series, “The X Factor,” in Los Angeles.

## Journalist: Morgan must have known about hacking

**LONDON** (AP)—CNN celebrity interviewer Piers Morgan was an extremely hands-on tabloid editor who must have known that phone hacking was rife at his paper, a former employee claimed Wednesday.

Business journalist James Hipwell said voicemail interceptions were an everyday activity at Britain’s Daily Mirror tabloid, where Hipwell worked in the late 1990s as a columnist providing stock tips.

Hipwell told a British inquiry into media ethics that while

he had no direct evidence that Morgan, the Daily Mirror editor at the time, was involved in phone hacking, he said it was impossible to imagine that Morgan had been kept in the dark.

“Nothing happened at the newspaper without him knowing,” Hipwell testified, speaking a day after Morgan was grilled Tuesday in a tense, nationally televised hearing before the inquiry.

Morgan denied having any direct connection to phone



Morgan

hacking—although he refused to answer questions about how he came to hear a voicemail message left by former Beatle Paul McCartney on the phone of his now ex-wife Heather Mills.

Morgan’s description of the message in a 2006 article for the Daily Mail led some to wonder whether he’d gotten it through phone hacking. Mills has said there was no way Morgan could have obtained it honestly, and on Wednesday she emphasized that she had “never ever played Piers Morgan a tape of any kind, never mind a voice message from my ex-husband.”

## Michael Douglas’ son gets 4 1/2 more years in prison

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A judge called the imprisoned son of actor Michael Douglas reckless and irresponsible as he nearly doubled his prison sentence Wednesday from five years to 9 1/2 years for repeated drug offenses.

U.S. District Judge Richard Berman in Manhattan cited Cameron Douglas’ “history of reckless behavior” as he imposed a new punishment that was more than double what prosecutors were

seeking for Douglas’ guilty plea to drug charges that arose from his successful efforts to smuggle drugs into prison.

Berman added 4 1/2 years to the five-year term he gave Douglas last year for his guilty plea in connection with his sales of methamphetamine in July 2009 from a high-end Manhattan hotel.

The judge said he had never had a case before in which a defendant “has so recklessly, wantonly,

flagrantly and criminally acted in such a destructive and manipulative fashion as Cameron Douglas has.”

Berman reminded Douglas’ lawyers that he had warned at the earlier sentencing that it was the defendant’s last chance to turn around a life derailed by drugs and mental troubles stretching into his teenage years.

The judge also criticized the government for being too lenient on Douglas after he repeatedly violated prison rules by arranging to get drugs.



Douglas

## First wife has heard enough of young replacement’s chatter

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: After 19 years of marriage, my husband left me for a younger woman. I found out later that they had been dating for several years. They moved in together immediately after our separation, and she was pregnant at the divorce hearing. They had a baby boy eight months later.

On Tuesday, Rihanna responded herself via Twitter: “Your magazine is a poor representation of the evolution of human rights! I find you disrespectful, and rather desperate!!”

Rather than a positive article useful to Dutch girls, Rihanna said Jackie chose to print an item “degrading to an entire race. That’s your contribution to this world!” She also ended her tweet with an indelicate phrase.

Hoeke said she was unaware the word she used was so loaded because “you hear it all the time on radio and TV.”

By Wednesday, the Facebook apology had attracted hundreds of comments, many condemning Hoeke but some saying the reaction was overblown.



*Dear Abby*

At every event with my kids, they come together with their son and she steers the conversation to her life, what’s going on, etc. I have tried to be silent and civil, but she ruined my daughter’s high school graduation by gossiping and giggling behind me and the kids the entire event.

I am trying not to be a bitter ex, but I have had to bite back some nasty words to both of them. Any suggestions on how to deal with a miserably blended family?

BLENDED FAMILY IN BATON ROUGE, LA.

DEAR “BLENDED” FAMILY: Yes, and please don’t think I am without sympathy. The surest way to deal with your miserably blended family is to make a conscious decision to get on with YOUR life. If you’re not interested in what the woman has to say, get up and move away. No one says you must listen to her prattle. Develop your own interests and activities, and meet some new friends. The stronger and more independent you become, the better off you’ll be. Trust me.

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship with “Anita” for four years. She moved in with me two years ago and our home life has been wonderful. We are a unique couple. We have discussed marriage, but neither of us believes in the tradition.

I’d like to show Anita how much I love her, as well as show others we’re in a serious relationship. An engagement ring would be a way to show it. However, the term “engagement” would not be accurate because we do not plan to marry.

Can you suggest another symbol or even another term for a ring to show unity without indicating the eventuality of marriage?

ROMANTIC IN OHIO

DEAR ROMANTIC: How about calling Anita’s ring a commitment ring? Or give her a pendant with a sweet message engraved on the back? Or a wristwatch engraved with, “Love ya ‘til the end of time,” or “... ‘til time runs out.” Another way to indicate to others that you’re together but don’t believe in “tradition” would be to hold a commitment ceremony and invite friends.

DEAR ABBY: There is an issue driving a wedge between my wife and me. I have always believed that my casual shirts (in fact, all my shirts) should be worn tucked into my slacks. My wife feels they should be left out. I think I look better with them tucked in. She feels differently.

Abby, you can save our marriage if you’ll let us know who is right. To tuck, or not to tuck—that is the question. And, by the way, she says I should mention that I have a bodacious waistline, which means I could lose 40 pounds.

FRIAR “TUCKED” IN LONGMONT, COLO.

DEAR “TUCKED”: Your wife is your best friend and she is right. (If you doubt it, consult a men’s haberdasher.) By leaving your shirt out, you would appear to be a few pounds thinner. When you tuck it in, your “bodacious” waistline is accentuated by a horizontal line, which makes you appear to be heavier.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### LaBelle among stars to perform in Indy

**INDIANAPOLIS** (AP)—Patti LaBelle, Bret Michaels and En Vogue are among the artists who will perform in free concerts during the week leading up to the Super Bowl in Indianapolis. The Super Bowl Host Committee made the announcement Wednesday at a news conference at Lucas Oil Stadium, site of the Feb. 5 game. The artists will perform on stages along Georgia Street beginning Jan. 27. 5. A specific schedule was not announced. Other artists scheduled to appear include Big Head Todd and the Monsters, Corey Cox, Darius Rucker, Dierks Bentley, Edwin McCain, Fitz & the Tantrums, Fuel, Here Come the Mummies, IU’s Straight No Chaser, LMFAO, O.A.R., Railroad Earth, Sixpence None the Richer, Umphrey’s McGee and Will Hoge. More artists are expected to be added. Madonna will perform at halftime.

### Lawsuit claiming ‘Wipeout’ a copycat show settles

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The Japanese television network has settled a lawsuit with ABC and a leading reality TV production company over allegations that the series “Wipeout” is a rip-off of several Japanese game shows. The Tokyo Broadcasting System sued ABC in late 2008, claiming the obstacle-course game show closely resembles several Japanese shows. It alleged “Wipeout” violated its copyrights to shows such as “Takeshi’s Castle,” “Most Extreme Elimination Challenge” and “Ninja Warrior.” The Japanese network later sued Dutch entertainment giant Endemol, which produces “Wipeout” and numerous other reality shows. “Wipeout” has consistently ranked in the Top 20 primetime shows since it debuted on ABC in 2008. The companies settled the case Nov. 30 after meeting with a federal magistrate judge in Los Angeles. No settlement terms were filed with the court, which listed the settlement on its docket last week.

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



THE SOLDIERS ADVANCE UP THE HILL!  
OH, NO! A SQUADRON OF BOMBERS APPEARS ON THE HORIZON! THE BOMBS BEGIN TO FALL!



By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



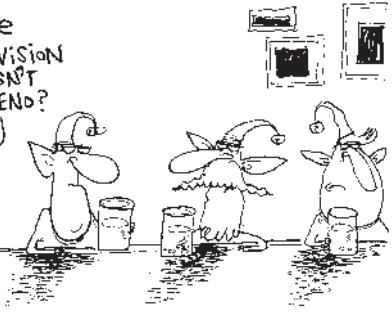
By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39	Clean	2	Danger	23	Insinuating
1	Hot tub	Air Act	3	Cognizant	4	Cookouts,
4	Physi-	org.	41	Send	24	— on a
cist's deg.	7	Cut in two	for short	5	UFO,	Grecian
12	Chop	45	Pilfered	25	maybe	Urn"
13	Scrooge's	47	Insep-	26	Guitarist	Church
cry	14	cross-	arable	once wed	seat	seat
nautically	48	wise,	to Xavier	27	Storefront	sign abbr.
15	Historic	35-Across	Cugat	28	Hearty	brew
time	52	"Monty	7	Difficult	30	Eggs
16	Four-line	Python"	8	"The —	31	Doctrine
verses	53	Pianist	Daba	32	Pair	32
18	Atmo-	Eubie	Honey-	33	with	an air
sphere	54	Young	moon"	36	Mess up	33
19	Seafood	seal	9	Island	Abomi-	34
20	Prepared	55	Prepared	garland	nable	40
21	entree	56	Disrobe	10	Snowman	Snowman
Dog bane?	57	Pigpen	11	Forefront	37	Reddish
Very long	58	Attempt	17	Typog-	brown	brown
23	Former	DOWN	Broadway	raphy	40	Tires
frosh	1	Wheat	prize	units	(out)	(out)
27	Needle-	bundle	21	Tequila	42	Wettish
fish			source	43	Bury	43
29	There			44	Irascible	44
31	Perfect			45	Dance	45
34	Perspec-			46	lesson	46
35	tives			47	Catch	47
With 48-				48	sight of	48
Across,				49	Brady and	49
"Family				50	Brees,	Last
Feud"					for ex.	(Abbr.)
material						
37	Bankroll					
38	Oliver					
Twist's						
request						

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 12-23

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Greg Biffle, 42; Eddie Vedder, 47; Susan Lucci, 65; Harry Shearer, 68.

**Happy Birthday:** You are an innovative and imaginative dreamer. Put your ideas on paper and approach institutions or agencies that can help you achieve your goals. Recognize communication as a tool you can use to express your ideas without bullying or being bullied. Make every word and action count. Wasting valuable time is the enemy. Your numbers are 9, 16, 22, 27, 34, 40, 47.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Stick to your budget. Don't get caught up in the moment and forget about your debts and responsibilities. Offering your time, skills and knowledge is more than enough. Love is highlighted. Put time aside for someone special. **★★★**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Your curiosity will help you wiggle your way into an interesting conversation. When opportunity knocks, be ready to take a leap of faith. Not everyone you are close to will back your decision. Prepare to deal with complaints. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Don't let obstacles stand in your way. If you see something you want, grab it and keep moving. Love is in the stars, and taking a short trip will enhance any relationship you encounter. An impulsive decision will alter your life. **★★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Finish what you start. Offer help to those in need. Last-minute expenditures should be avoided. It's not what you give others that will

count in the end; it's how you go about it. A selfless act will enhance your reputation. **★★★**

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Plan to have some fun. Travel, last-minute shopping and a little romance should fill your day. Your high-spirited and boisterous personality will lead the way, but don't let overindulgence cost you when dealing with authority figures. **★★★★**

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll have to be careful what you say and do if you want to avoid criticism. Don't meddle and refuse to fight. Getting out of the house will ease the tension and can be put to good use picking up last-minute items. **★**

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Appreciate your peers. Offer festive cheer and good wishes for the holidays. Your gesture will set the stage for building stronger alliances. A shopping spree will lead to unique, creative and cost-efficient items. Love is highlighted. **★★★**

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't feel obligated to do something costly to prove your love. Stick to your budget and figure out a way to wow the people around you with simple and thoughtful gestures. Consider making a change to your professional goals. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Don't let obstacles stand in your way. If you see something you want, grab it and keep moving. Love is in the stars, and taking a short trip will enhance any relationship you encounter. An impulsive decision will alter your life. **★★★**

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotions will mount, especially if you have taken on too much. Revisit your to-do list and see what corners you can cut. Love and friendship should be your top priority. It's what you give from the heart that counts. **★★★**

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD  
IN ASTROLOGY



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**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep secrets. A surprise will have a greater impact if no one except you knows about it. A couple of changes at home will help you build your assets and bring great comfort and pleasure to those you love. Think big. **★★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A few finishing touches, and you will be ready to face whatever comes your way. A chance to show what you have to offer will lead to a better position. Refuse to let anyone take control. Market your skills and prepare to move forward. **★★★**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): The hectic pace will get to you. Try not to venture too far from home and you'll avoid aggressive individuals. Focus on finishing odd jobs and preparing for the festivities. Time to relax and enjoy the ones you love will pay off. **★**

**Birthday Baby:** You are aggressive, active and competitive. You are strong-willed and impatient. Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

7	8		3	4		9	5	
			2	5				
2					4			
			4	8	3			
						4		
8							9	
3	9		5	8		6	1	

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	2	4	1	6	5	3	7	9
3	7	5	8	2	9	1	6	4
6	9	1	4	3	7	8	2	5
7	5	8	6	9	3	4	1	2
2	4	9	7	1	8	6	5	3
1	3	6	5	4	2	7	9	8
4	1	2	3	5	6	9	8	7
5	8	3	9	7	1	2	4	6
9	6	7	2	8	4	5	3	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★

12/23

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

OUR CRUISE ON THE OASIS OF THE SEAS

Solution: 7 letters

T	W	O	L	E	B	S	S	W	K	C	A	H	S	A
G	S	N	O	I	T	A	E	R	C	E	R	I	Z	E
T	N	E	K	A	A	R	G	S	E	L	Z	Z	A	D
S	H	I	G	H	C	S	A	S	D	Z	I	U	T	I
G	N	E	S	R	O	U	T	E	L	P	K	M	T	U
I	M	I	R	I	A	U	N	E	R	R	K	I	E	G
O	E	C	B	A	R	L</								

# CLASSIFIED ADS



## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

## CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

## ADVERTISING DEADLINE

### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### Saturday Issue:

■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

## CANCELLATION

### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

## CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

## ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

SPRING  
SUMMER  
AUTUMN  
WINTER

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames



**For Inquiries,  
Please call  
MMC  
at  
235-8980**

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### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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17" Monitor - FOR SALE

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Open: 7 Days a Week  
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\$100 - \$300/mo (Single occupancy)  
(Includes Internet & Cable TV, Hot Water,  
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5 hour - \$20.00 one (1) day - \$30.00  
Please call 285-8799; 235-8899

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Looking for Continental OnePass miles & Delta Skymiles. We pay cash. Call 888-2205

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Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

## HOUSES FOR RENT

3 BR, 2 Bathroom, concrete houses fenced located at Magicienne Bay Av., Dan Dan Homestead. \$750.00 furnished with range, refrigerator, water heater, dining and living room set or \$600.00 – monthly unfurnished.

2 Bed Room, 1 Bathroom, Duplex Concrete House located in Chalan Kanoa, North of Sister Remedios Pre-school. \$300.00 monthly unfurnished.

NMHC approved. Utilities not included. Deposit required. Call 234-7723.

## Dollar Days Wholesale

is looking for

- 1 - Building Maintenance Repairer (all around)
  - 1 - Silk screen worker
  - 1 - Electronic Technician
  - 1 - Air Brush Tatoos Artist

**WANT TO BUY (IN GOOD CONDITION)** (10) used small size refrigerator, (2) used chest freezer, (4) used water tank 1000 gallon & (10) used 5000btu air conditioner.

Need supplier of local fresh fruits & vegetables for restaurant.

**PLEASE CALL: 233-2288**



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

Revised 12/23/11

Job Vacancy No. 11-067



Opening Date: 11/28/11  
Closing Date: Until Filled

LABORATORY SPECIALIST

**DUTIES:** Under the overall supervision of the Water Laboratory Manager or his/her designee, the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows. Conducts either chemical or microbiological tests on samples to ensure compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency. Performs tests on samples submitted by customers. Prepares solutions and standards. Prepares and maintains mandatory records; performs statistical analysis; reviews and enters data; reports test results to Laboratory Manager and local and federal agencies. Responds to customer complaints to include verifying water quality and conducting field tests. Replenishes lab supply. Collects a variety of samples to include composite, wastewater treatment and receiving water samples. Participates in environmental awareness such as participating in conferences and giving presentations at schools. Calibrates laboratory equipment. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

**LOCATION:** WATER LABORATORY, SAIPAN

**POSITIONS:** One (1).

**SALARY:** \$27,826.00 - \$37,944.00 per annum; Unclassified; Ungraded.

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Bachelors Degree in Chemistry, Microbiology, or related field plus proven experience that could be applied towards laboratory work for a water and wastewater utility. Knowledge of: Mathematics; Laboratory procedures; Microbiology and chemistry; CNMI and EPA rules and regulations; Safety procedures. Skills in: Collecting samples; Performing routine to complex analysis; Preparing media; Following laboratory procedures; Calibrating equipment; Maintaining required records and reports; Providing customer service; Giving presentations; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. CNMI Driver's License. APPLICANTS MAY BE TESTED.

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THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT  
EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,

-v-

MARIANO S. NAPUTI, Defendant.

### SEVENTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on Friday, December 30, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.** The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 14th day of November, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

BRUCE L. MAILMAN, #F0153  
MAILMAN & KARA, LLC  
PMB 238 PPP BOX 10000  
SAIPAN, MP 96950-8900  
Telephone: 233-0081  
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF  
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC., Plaintiff,

-v-

FRANCISCO E. SANTOS, Defendant.

TO: FRANCISCO E. SANTOS  
P.O. BOX 511655  
ROTA, MP 96951

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to MAILMAN & KARA, LLC, Attn: Bruce L. Mailman, the Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is PMB 238, Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Guma Hustisa, Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:

DATED, this 2nd day of November, 2011:

/s/ CLERK OF COURTS

# Steelers' James Harrison returns to practice

**PITTSBURGH** (AP)—Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison understands his helmet-to-helmet hit on Cleveland quarterback Colt McCoy was illegal by the letter of the law.

He can also understand, grudgingly, why the NFL suspended him one game as punishment for a series of similar hits over the last three seasons.

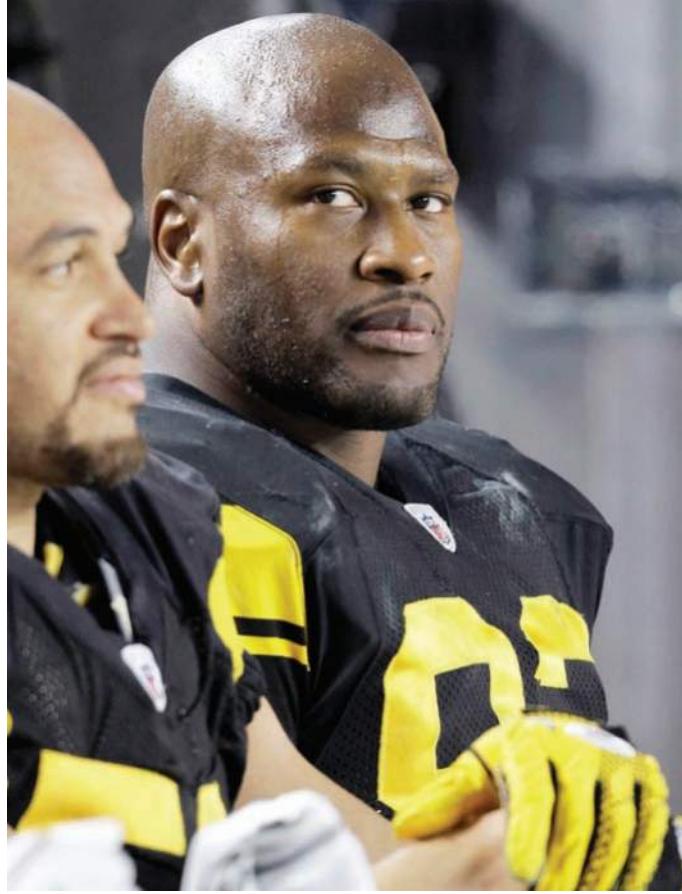
What Harrison doesn't quite understand, however, is why the Browns haven't also been disciplined by the league for allowing McCoy to return to the game so quickly if the quarterback was in such bad shape.

"If he was hurt so bad I don't know why they let him back in ... two plays later," Harrison said. "Something should be done to them, I would think. I don't know. I got a game, what should they get?"

McCoy was escaping pressure late in the fourth quarter when he tucked the ball as if to run. Harrison, who had been in coverage, approached ready to strike. McCoy pulled up at the last second and flipped the ball to running back Montario Hardesty right before Harrison mashed McCoy with his facemask.

Harrison contended after the game that McCoy ducked. Looking at the tape he's not so sure.

"I guess he's a little shorter, who knows? I don't know," Har-



In this Dec. 8, 2011, file photo, Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison, right, sits on the bench during the third quarter of an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns in Pittsburgh.

rison said. "When it came down to it, my helmet hit his. Oh well."

The quarterback was down on the field for several moments but was cleared by the Browns to return a few plays later—just in time to throw a clinching end zone intercep-

tion in a 14-3 Pittsburgh win.

McCoy developed concussion-like symptoms following the game and hasn't practiced since while the Browns have come under scrutiny for the way they handled the situation.

Cleveland's failure to check McCoy for a concussion led the

## NFL makes 2 changes in concussion protocols

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The NFL is changing how it handles concussion examinations after Browns quarterback Colt McCoy went back into a Dec. 8 game without being tested for one.

A certified athletic trainer, paid by the league, will be at each game to monitor play and provide medical staffs with "any relevant information that may assist them in determining the most appropriate evaluation and treatment," the NFL said in a statement Wednesday. The trainers will not diagnose nor prescribe treatment and can't order that players be removed from a game.

Their presence is intended to assist team medical staffs in addressing a variety of injuries.

The trainer's "role will be to provide information to team medical staffs that might have been missed due to a lack of a clear view of the play or because they were attending to other players or

NFL to put a certified trainer in the press box at each game to help monitor head injuries.

Harrison practiced Wednesday for the first time since the suspension. The 2008 NFL Defensive Player of the Year doesn't think he needs to change

duties," the statement said.

The trainer will be in a booth upstairs with access to video replay and direct communication to the medical staffs of both teams.

"In most cases, the athletic trainer will be affiliated with a major college program in the area or will have previously been affiliated with an NFL club," the league said. The league and each team are in the process of selecting the trainers.

Also, team medical staffs will be permitted to use cell phones during games to gather information relating to the care of an injured player. This is not limited to concussions.

McCoy was hurt on a helmet-to-helmet hit by Steelers linebacker James Harrison late in Pittsburgh's win. He returned to the game after missing just two plays without being examined for a concussion.

The quarterback wasn't tested until after the game, when he was diagnosed with a con-

cussion. McCoy is still experiencing symptoms and hasn't played since.

The Browns said McCoy wasn't showing symptoms of a concussion during the game, so they didn't test him. Team doctors were treating other players and didn't see the impact from Harrison's vicious hit. Harrison later was suspended for one game for being a repeat offender and returned to practice Wednesday after missing a loss at San Francisco.

The NFL said the Browns would not be disciplined for their handling of the situation.

"Clubs also were reminded of the importance of team coaching and medical staffs continuing to work together to ensure that full information is available at all times to medical staffs," the NFL's statement said, "that players do not take steps to avoid evaluations, and that concussions continue to be managed in a conservative and medically appropriate way."

sidered dangerous hits, seemed more nonplussed about the suspension than previous fines.

"I'm not worried about anything," he said. "I can't foresee the future. I'm not a fortuneteller. I'm going to deal with it as it comes."

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# Warriors' Ellis sued for alleged sexual harassment



**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—A former Golden State Warriors employee filed a sexual harassment lawsuit against star guard Monta Ellis on Wednesday, alleging Ellis sent her unwanted texts that included a photo of his genitals.

In her lawsuit, which also names the team, Erika Ross Smith alleges Ellis began sending her several dozen explicit messages, sometimes several times a day, starting in November 2010 through January while she worked for the team's community relations department.

The messages included lines such as, "I want to be with you," and "Hey Sexy," and periodically asked her what she was wearing or doing, according to the lawsuit.

Smith would often reply with "What do you want?" or "I am sleeping," the lawsuit claims.

"On a micro level, my client has endured unwanted harassment, has suffered and continues to suffer emotional distress and trauma," her attorney, Burt Boltuch, said at a news conference in his Oakland office. "On a macro level, this type of conduct, especially in the sports world, must stop."

"She was embarrassed. She was intimidated. She felt scared and helpless."

The Warriors deny the allegations, saying Ellis and Smith had a "consensual relationship."

At a charity event in nearby Alameda, Ellis would only say that the team has responded.

"It's a legal matter, we'll let it play its course," Ellis told KT-VU-TV. "Y'know, what happens, happens."

Boltuch said his client rejected Ellis' advances and feared

that no one would believe her. "I was treated unfairly. I was let go," Smith said at the news conference. "It wasn't my fault that I was let go."

Boltuch also showed a photo of what he said was Ellis' genitalia that the guard allegedly sent to Smith's work-issued cell-phone on Dec. 17, 2010, a day after he complained to the team about her job performance.

When questioned if the photo came from Ellis, Boltuch responded, "We know it came from him."

Rick Welts, the Warriors' president and chief operating officer, said in a prepared statement Wednesday that the organization takes all harassment allegations seriously.

"When we were made aware of a consensual relationship between Mr. Ellis and the Plaintiff, we did what an organization should do. We told both to stop—promptly, directly and fairly," Welts said. "The Warriors have never taken any action against the Plaintiff for any inappropriate reason, and we deny the allegations she is making."

Boltuch rejected the team's claim.

"It was absolutely, unequivocally 100 percent not consensual," Boltuch said. "And if it was, why was my client's job duties removed and nothing was done to Mr. Ellis? To me that smacks of sexual harassment."

Ellis' agent, Jeffrey Fried, said Wednesday that he was en route to Oakland and didn't immediately have a comment.

According to the lawsuit, the Warriors changed Smith's job description and eventually fired her after Ellis' wife, Juanika Ellis, learned of the texts and complained to team executives in January.



In this photo taken Dec. 12, 2011, Golden State Warriors' Monta Ellis is shown during media day in Oakland, Calif.

Smith said she told team executives that Monta Ellis told her he was using a "secret cellular phone" that was being kept by the team's equipment manager and was in the name of a third party.

Smith, who has worked in similar jobs with the Washington Wizards and the Phoenix

Suns, said Wednesday that it was tough to go public.

"It was pretty hard because I knew that essentially my career is over and it would be hard to re-establish myself after working so hard throughout the years," said Smith, who believes she may be blacklisted in NBA circles.

According to the lawsuit, Smith said she told team officials that Ellis' wife called her on Jan. 7 and said, "I know about the secret phone."

Shortly after that, Smith said Ellis told her that he met with team officials and general manager Larry Riley told him "not to worry," and that "everything would be swept under the rug."

The following month, Juanika Ellis apparently used her purse to push Smith into a wall during a Warriors home game, the lawsuit said. Smith said she believes that Ellis' wife believes Smith initiated the texts with the player.

"She was accusatory towards me," Smith said Wednesday.

Boltuch said the team in February reduced Smith's responsibilities, including interaction with Ellis and other players after she refused to resign.

"They offered her what I believe is a bribe," Boltuch said.

"They said, 'It'd be best if you resign and we'll give you some money.' She rejected it."

Boltuch said the team eliminated Smith's position in August, more than a week after she notified the team that a reporter contacted her inquiring if Ellis was "stalking" her.

The lawsuit alleges retaliation, wrongful termination and intentional infliction of emotional distress and seeks unspecified damages.

Ellis was the Warrior's leading scorer last season, averaging 24.1 points per game. His acrobatic layups and ball handling skills have made him a fan favorite though he is known to be reticent and has few endorsement deals and less notoriety than other players of his stature.

Ellis signed a \$66 million, six-year deal with the Warriors in 2008 not long after winning the NBA's Most Improved Player award.

He then sustained a serious ankle injury that summer on his motorized scooter and missed most of the season, earning a 30-game suspension without pay because he wasn't supposed to be riding such a vehicle.

Ellis was recently selected as a team captain for this season.

## Kobe day-to-day with torn wrist ligament

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Kobe Bryant did not play in the Los Angeles Lakers' preseason finale against the Clippers on Wednesday night because of a torn ligament in his right wrist, and his status for the season opener on Christmas Day is up in the air.

A MRI revealed the extent of the injury, which occurred early in the in the third quarter of the Lakers' 114-95 loss to the Clippers on Monday night.

Bryant was examined by Dr. Steven Shin of the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic.

Depending on the degree of the tear, he could be sidelined as long as three to four weeks.

"He's day-to-day. As soon as I figure it out, I will let you guys know," said coach Mike Brown, who took over this season after the retirement of Phil Jackson. "The doctor has to clear him. Guys will go through the year and get hurt, obviously. Sometimes they'll get hurt and can't play, sometimes they'll get hurt and still can play. It just depends on the situation. Come Sunday, we'll see how it is. There's a chance, though, that he could play Sunday."

He also thought about how far he's come, going from there to here, and he acknowledged he's sometimes amazed. Along the way, he helped Simeon Career Academy win back-to-back state championships, then led Memphis to the NCAA championship game before the Bulls drafted him with the top pick in 2008 after defying long odds to win the lottery.

Bryant, who shoots right-handed, was sent crashing to the floor by Clippers center DeAndre Jordan on a blocked layup and came up holding the wrist. He stayed in the game for another 3 minutes, then

went to the bench for a good stretch and was allowed to return to the floor during the fourth quarter.

"I knew he landed on his wrist, but I was not aware that he was in significant pain," Brown said. "He did not tell me he was in pain, nor did our trainer (Gary Vitti) tell me he was in pain."

Bryant practiced Tuesday, but did not participate in Wednesday morning's shootaround. He did not talk to the media before the game and camped out in the trainer's room.

After Monday's game, when asked about the wrist, Bryant said it wasn't a problem. Brown's understanding was that his best player did not need surgery. Last season, Bryant played in all 82 games for the fourth time in his career. And with this season reduced to 66 games because of the 149-day lockout, every game without him is a bigger deal. But the NBA's sixth all-time leading scorer continually has demonstrated his ability to play through pain at a high level.

"He came up to me in practice yesterday and said: 'My wrist is a little sore, but I'm good to go,'" Brown said. "And when it got to competitive stuff, where it was 5-on-5, he scored runners over defenders with his left hand. So he was playing a game within himself, I guess."

## Bulls lock up Rose with 5-year extension

**DEERFIELD, Ill.** (AP)—Derrick Rose was going down the list, thanking just about everyone who helped him become one of the NBA's best players, when he looked to his right.

Seated off to the side was his mother, Brenda.

"I think I can finally say this now. Mom, I finally made it," he said.

Rose, the Chicago Bulls' superstar point guard and the league's reigning MVP, agreed Wednesday to a five-year contract extension worth more than \$94 million that kicks in next season.

It's fair to say Rose made it long before this latest news conference. The extension is just another stop in a rapid and steady rise from a tough neighborhood on Chicago's South Side to a starring role with his hometown team after being taken with the No. 1 pick in the draft.

He's gone from Rookie of the Year to All-Star to MVP in just three seasons, becoming

the youngest player to win the award. That's why the extension was more a formality than a surprise.

The only thing missing from his resume is a championship and that's something he hopes to change in Year 4.

"He embodies all the characteristics that you look for," coach Tom Thibodeau said. "It's a lot more than the talent. The talent is the obvious part. Then, when you look at his will to win, basketball IQ, unselfishness, his humility—I think those are the things that you can build a championship-caliber team around."

The Bulls came close to winning it all last year, leading the league with 62 victories during the regular season and advancing to the Eastern Conference finals before losing to Miami.

That capped a spectacular season in which Rose showed up for camp wondering why he couldn't be MVP after LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris

Bosh turned down Chicago to unite in Miami. Then, he backed it up with one of the best seasons by a point guard.

He averaged 25 points, 7.7 assists and 4.1 rebounds over 81 games, the only NBA player last year to rank in the top 10 in both scoring and assists. He also became just the fifth player in history (along with Oscar Robertson, John Havlicek, Michael Jordan and James) to post 2,000 points, 600 assists and 300 rebounds in a single season.

More important to Rose, he led Chicago to its best season since the Michael Jordan-Scottie Pippen championship era, and he joined Jordan as the only Bulls players to win the MVP award.

He keeps adding new wrinkles to his game, too. In the past, he extended his shooting range. This past offseason, he worked on his post moves.

"I don't think you can put a ceiling on what Derrick can become," general manager

Gar Forman said. "It's scary to think that I think he'll continue to get better and better throughout his career."

The extension could bring some more pressure.

Rose shrugged it off. He said money is "the last thing I think about."

Even so, he has some ideas about how he might use it.

He mentioned pouring some of it back into his old neighborhood in Englewood, one of the roughest sections of Chicago. He pointed out a lack of indoor courts and after-school programs for youngsters in that area.

He also thought about how far he's come, going from there to here, and he acknowledged he's sometimes amazed. Along the way, he helped Simeon Career Academy win back-to-back state championships, then led Memphis to the NCAA championship game before the Bulls drafted him with the top pick in 2008 after defying long odds to win the lottery.

He keeps adding new wrinkles to his game, too. In the past, he extended his shooting range. This past offseason, he worked on his post moves.

# Mayweather gets 90 jail days in Vegas case



**LAS VEGAS**  
(AP)—Box-

ing champion Floyd Mayweather Jr. is a perfect 42-0 in the ring and has dodged significant jail time several times in domestic violence cases in Las Vegas and Michigan.

But his courtroom streak came to an end Wednesday when a Las Vegas judge sentenced him to 90 days in jail after he pleaded guilty to a reduced battery domestic violence charge and no contest to two harassment charges.

The case stemmed from a hair-pulling, punching and arm-twisting argument with his ex-girlfriend Josie Harris while two of their children watched in September 2010.

"Punishment is appropriate," Justice of the Peace Melissa Saragosa said after a prosecutor complained that Mayweather has been in trouble before and hasn't faced serious consequences.

"No matter who you are, you have consequences to your actions when they escalate to this level of violence," she said.

Good behavior could knock several weeks off Mayweather's sentence, but he will likely serve most of the sentence set to begin Jan. 6, said Officer Bill Cassell, a Las Vegas police spokesman.

Mayweather and his manager, Leonard Ellerbe, declined comment outside the courtroom.

The jail time raises doubts about a possible showdown between Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao, a champion fighter from the Philippines against whom Mayweather's welterweight success is usually measured.

A long-awaited fight between the two men regarded as among the best of their generation has been delayed by stalling techniques and verbal sparring.

The two men have a defamation lawsuit pending in Las Vegas federal court stemming from statements by Mayweather that he suspects Pacquiao was taking performance-enhancing drugs.



Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, has his tie adjusted by his manager Leonard Ellerbe while waiting for sentencing in Clark County District Court, Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2011, in Las Vegas.

"Things could have gotten more out of hand than they did," the judge said.

Prosecutor Lisa Luzaich cited three previous domestic violence arrests for scuffles involving Harris, with whom Mayweather has three children, and three cases involving another woman with whom Mayweather has one child.

Fines were of no consequence to Mayweather, Luzaich said.

Mayweather goes by the nickname "Money," and was guaranteed \$25 million for the Ortiz fight that won him the WBC's welterweight belt. Mayweather earned more than \$20 million in a previous fight against "Sugar" Shane Mosley.

Mayweather has been arrested several times since 2002 in battery and violence cases in Las Vegas and in his hometown of Grand Rapids, Mich.

He was convicted in 2002 of misdemeanor battery stemming from a fight with two women at a Las Vegas nightclub. He received a suspended one-year jail sentence and was ordered to undergo impulse-control counseling.

He was fined in Grand Rapids in February 2005 and ordered to perform community service after pleading no contest to misdemeanor assault and battery for a bar fight.

He was acquitted by a Nevada jury in July 2005 after being accused of hitting and kicking Harris during an argument outside a Las Vegas nightclub.

He was acquitted again in October of misdemeanor allegations that he threatened two homeowner association security guards during a parking ticket argument.

Mayweather also faces a civil lawsuit in Las Vegas from two men who allege he orchestrated a shooting attack on them outside a skating rink in 2009. Police have never accused Mayweather of firing shots and he has never been criminally charged in the case.

and Mayweather's lawyers as cases against him have progressed, he said.

"The commissioners are definitely up to speed on it and will be when it comes time to consider any kind of application," he said.

Lee Samuels, a spokesman for Pacquiao's promoter Top Rank and Bob Arum, declined comment on Mayweather's sentencing and its possible effect on a match.

Mayweather, 34, stood still in a striped olive vest and showed no reaction as the judge sentenced him to six months in the Clark County jail then suspended half the term.

She gave him credit for three days previously served in jail and ordered him to complete 100 hours of community service, pay a \$2,500 fine and complete a yearlong domestic violence counseling program.

The plea deal avoided trial on felony and misdemeanor that

could have gotten Mayweather 34 years in state prison if he was convicted on all counts.

Mayweather also is expected to plead no contest next week to a separate misdemeanor harassment charge involving a 21-year-old homeowner association security guard who was poked in the face during an argument about parking tickets placed on cars outside Mayweather's house.

Mayweather's lawyer, Karen Winckler, said she may appeal what she called the unusual sentence handed down Wednesday.

In court, she called Mayweather "a champion in many areas" and aired a list of his good deeds, including buying toys for children for Christmas and promising to donate \$100,000 to breast cancer research by the end of December.

Winckler argued that the public would benefit more if Mayweather performed 100 hours of community service

with children.

Mayweather is also on the hook for 40 hours of community service with the Las Vegas Habitat for Humanity Project under a South Carolina federal judge's order for dodging a deposition in a music rights lawsuit.

Mayweather has a Jan. 31 deadline on that court order. Habitat for Humanity official Catherine Barnes said Wednesday that Mayweather had not started to log the hours.

Saragosa said Wednesday she was persuaded to jail Mayweather following his admission that he hit Harris and twisted her arm, and that two of their children, ages 9 and 10, witnessed the attack.

Mayweather threatened to kill or make Harris "disappear," Saragosa said, and their 10-year-old son ran from the house and jumped a back gate to fetch security. Mayweather had taken cellphones belonging to Harris and the two boys.

"one of the great sorrows of my life. With the benefit of hindsight, I wish I had done more." The trustees fired him about 12 hours later.

On Wednesday, a prominent Penn State donor, Anthony Lubrano, released a letter critical of the way Penn State leaders handled the initial week of the crisis.

Lubrano is a 1982 graduate whose name is on a state-of-the-art baseball park that opened on campus in 2006. He said the letter was sent to fellow alumni.

In the letter with the subject heading of "Due Process," Lubrano said "In America, the presumption of innocence is a fundamental right. However, on the night of November 9th, a rush to judgment appeared to have occurred."

He wrote that others "outraged by the failure of the

## Fans sing Happy Birthday in front of Paterno home



**STATE COL-**

**LEGE, Pa.**

(AP)—About

two dozen fans gathered briefly outside Joe Paterno's home Wednesday night to wish the former Penn State coach a happy 85th birthday and sing a Christmas carol.

Paterno's son, quarterback coach Jay Paterno, thanked the crowd on behalf of his father. He said that because of chemotherapy Paterno was a little weak so he couldn't come outside.

Joe Paterno has been diagnosed with what his family has called a treatable form of lung cancer.

"Happy birthday JoePa, Happy Birthday JoePa ... and many more," the fans serenaded several times to the tune of

the traditional birthday song during their seven-minute visit. Most of the gathering, which included a few children, stayed on the sidewalk and just off the Paternos' property, about 30 feet from the front door.

Wearing rain slickers or hooded jackets, most fans gathered at a statue dedicated to Paterno outside Beaver Stadium and made the roughly 15-minute walk to Paterno's modest ranch home near the end of a dead-end street. The property is decorated with bright Christmas lights.

Fans said they began planning the visit about two weeks ago. They also delivered cards as part of a drive from a Penn State alumni group in Baltimore to send Paterno 109,000

birthday cards—a number nearly identical to the capacity of Beaver Stadium.

Jay Paterno said he didn't know how many cards the family received, but joked they would have to weigh all of them.

"It was just to wish him a happy 85th birthday, have fun, show him our support and tell him we still love him," Sue Lelko, of Port Matilda, decked out in blue Penn State sweats, said about the trip to wish Paterno well.

Fans broke out into a chorus of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" after Paterno's wife, Sue Paterno, also came out briefly while trying to get grandchildren running in the yard to return home.

"Thank you very much and

have a Merry Christmas," she said.

School trustees fired Paterno last month in the aftermath of child sex-abuse charges against retired defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky.

Paterno testified before a grand jury investigating Sandusky about a 2002 allegation reported by a graduate assistant that Paterno then relayed to a superior, but prosecutors have said he is not a target of the probe. Sandusky is awaiting trial after pleading not guilty.

Paterno has called the allegations troubling and urged the public to let the legal process unfold. He initially announced his retirement Nov. 9, taking effect at the end of the season. That day, he called the scandal

leadership of Penn State to allow for due process" sign a separate online petition.

The petition contained nearly identical wording to an online letter of support signed by nearly 450 of Paterno's former players, including Heisman Trophy winner John Cappalletti, LaVar Arrington and current Raiders offensive

lineman Stefen Wisniewski. Lubrano said he coordinated with letter organizers after the former players released their statement of support Tuesday night.

"It's about celebrating Joe's birthday today. We just want to wish him well with his recovery and everything," one of the organizers, Hall of Famer and Nittany Lions standout tailback Lydell Mitchell, said Wednesday. "He's going through a stressful time right now."

# AG's Sakude wins Inter-Government Bud Light Cup

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

 AG's Sakude defeated DPS Enforcers, 8-6, in a road draw at Jonny's Bar & Grill last Friday to clinch the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's Inter-Government League Bud Light Cup championship.

AG's Sakude is made up of Eric Atalig, Skyler Benavente, Alvin Iglesias, Jayson John, George Sablan, and Tony Tomokane.

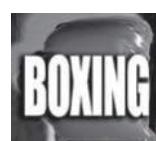
AG's Sakude finished second place overall in the regular

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
AG's Sakude, seen here in a file photo, beat DPS Enforcers last Friday to clinch the Saipan Electronic Darts Association's government league Bud Light Cup championship.



## Pacquiao celebrates 33rd birthday 'Hollywood style'

By AQUILES Z. ZONIO,  
ROSA MAY DE GUZMAN-MAITEM  
INQUIRER MINDANAO BUREAU

 **GENERAL SANTOS CITY, Philippines**—Boxing champ and Sarangani Representative Manny Pacquiao celebrated his 33rd birthday on Saturday night with a major star-studded bash, Hollywood style. And it had all the elements of show-biz glamor and kick.

The nearly 2,000 guests—among them celebrities, politicos, relatives and buddies in the trade—arrived in their best dresses and suits, packed the KCC Mall Convention Center, cheered on, and paid tribute

to the legendary boxing icon tagged as the most famous Filipino.

It was a clear-cut surprise from his wife, Jinkee, as she kept the planning for the event hush-hush and hired a Cebu-based event management consultancy firm. Her instruction: depict the occasion with a high-style Hollywood theme befitting the curvaceous stature of her husband.

"This is all about the ritz and glamor of Hollywood. Manny's in that stage considering the many facets of life he enjoys. And he's worthy of that recognition," said Joy Isla, managing owner of Party Island.

Isla refused to cite the cost of the event, but a Pacquiao family member claimed that about P5 million had been spent to

orchestrate the event, excluding the car and P2 million that were raffled off for the guests.

The party came as a surprise for Manny who earlier spent his birthday with the people he has been serving in Sarangani province as a congressman.

Outside, two panels illustrating a Hollywood mark and James Bond figure in his macho stance were a stopper for guests who queued for a few snaps. The stage indoors bared more: the bulk of Rocky, and the copy of game of death lateral to Manny: Shining at 33.

Red carpet was rolled out, and Hollywood movie titles gave the tables a star's touch.

Isla revealed that Jinkee was a hands-on client in the mere 20 days of planning. "The artists,

the foods, she had them picked. It's simple and elegant."

Hundreds of wine and eclectic food prepared by caterers Sarangani Highlands, Ranchero and Jams drowned the guests. But the tuna was the star.

Some 1,500 tickets were prepared but more showed up against a stern security setup all throughout.

But the twist and irony came when his 83-year-old grandma, Cristina Dapigran, was given the chance to give her birthday message to the celebrant.

After giving her greetings, Dapigran said in the vernacular: "I hope you will make good your promise to give me a house."

The boxer-turned-lawmaker responded with a big smile.

The lucky winner of a P1-million giveaway was a certain Cristina Alcalá, village chairman of Cuales, Maasim town, Sarangani.

Ilocos Sur Governor Luis "Chavit" Singson shelled out another P1 million to entertain more guests.

Ten VIP guests won after their numbers were luckily drawn from the drop box. Each of them received P100,000 each.

Another winner got a car as birthday gift from the Pacquiao.

The organizers imposed stricter rules during the party.

There were designated entrance gates for the VIPs, Pacquiao's family and relatives, as well as for government employees and members of the press.

Writers and photographers were advised to stay in their designated area and were not allowed to roam around the convention center.

The VIP area was cordoned off and security personnel were seen preventing even some political allies and relatives of the Pacman.

"We did not enjoy the party. There were lots of restrictions. We could not mingle with other guests and friends because the organizer prevented us from doing so," said Joseph Jubelag, Manila Bulletin correspondent.

Jubelag said the organizer brought in security personnel from Cebu who could not recognize the local supporters, followers and even close kin of the boxing icon.

Marlouie, Jether Yobech, and fourth graders Jeremiah Cruz, Nolan Gatharieg, Jacky Ke, and Iverson Santos.

Tawny Barcenas, Spencer Marchadesch, and Erin Mortenson coached the GTC boys team.

GTC finished the season undefeated with just one tie against Koblerville Elementary School earlier in the year.

Other competing teams included Dan Dan, Kagman, and San Vicente elementary schools.

The U12 Interscholastic Football League boys and girls competition was organized by the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

## PROA

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last two minutes.

Proa playmaker Dan Barcinas turned in seven points in the bonus period as Proa ran away in the end.

FGC had a jackrabbit start, spotting Proa 11-0 before shooting out to a 22-13 in the first 10 minutes of action. Lorio Pagarrao led the team with 11 points in the first quarter.

Proa battled back in the second period and pulled within a point, 40-41, at halftime with

slow-starting Iguel delivering 16 markers during the surge.

Proa pressed on after the half-time break and jumped ahead, 68-59, heading into the last period of regulation. Barcinas and Jack Lizama teamed up for 21 points in the push.

FGC rallied in the fourth quarter and almost stole the game in the final seconds. FGC's Kae Bernardo bulldozed his way for 12 points in the clutch that kept his team on Proa's heels.

Proa continued to employ its clock management strategy, but FGC kept clawing back into the match but eventually faded in

overtime.

Barcenas went on to lead four Proa players in double figures with 32 points, while FGC's Pagarrao scrambled for 31 in the tough loss.

Game 2 is set to tip off at 7pm tonight in Garapan.

**Proa 106** – Barcenas 32, Iguel 27, Lizama 23, Rabauliman 13, Libuw 4, Mendiola 4, Sablan 3.

**FGC 90** – Pagarrao 31, Bernardo 28, Yabut 11, Basila 8, David 4, Bahilo 3, Babauta 2, Lorio 2, Santos 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 13-22, 40-41, 68-59, 85-85, 106-90 (OT).

Tsukagoshi (600), Gillian Villagomez (500), Grace Choi (500), Sally Hwang (300), Asia Raulerson (300), Anna Calvert (300), and Hana Nelson (250).

Also keeping the top spot in her age group is Carol Lee, who leads the girls U12 division with 2,000 points. Lee swept the championship of both the DFS and Tan Holdings tournaments. Isabel Heras is lurking in second place with her 1,500 ranking points, while Ishikawa is

## 5 TEAMS

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its two remaining games. Just-do-It's last two assignments are against IDK and Alpha Q.

The Geeks with its 4-5 card could still make the first cut, provided it sweeps its last two games and Just-do-It drops its two remaining matches. Five other teams are already eliminated: Lay Low, Balls of Fury, Dream Team, G-Sparks, and

IDK. Law Low is at the No. 8 slot with its 3-6 slate, while Balls of Fury, Dream Team, and G-Sparks have similar 1-7 records. IDK is winless in nine games.

Qualifiers in the second round will play in another round-robin contest, but the format after the second round has yet to be determined. Also in the second round, league organizer James Feger will get the consensus of the qualified teams whether to allow or

not the recruitment of players from eliminated squads.

Meanwhile, Give-a-Hoot's Damart Teregeyo now leads the league in scoring with his 51 points. In nine games, Teregeyo collected nine aces, eight kees, three xunks, three goals, and two jams. Teregeyo dislodged the Geeks' Jonathan Ignacio at the No. 1 spot, as the latter had only 49 markers after last week's matches. Ignacio tallied 20 aces, two goals, one xunk, one jam, and one kee.

## CHAMBERS

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(220), and Jeffrey Seo (150).

In the girls U10 division, Tania Tan is still ahead with her 2,000 points. Tan, who tied Julia Ishikawa for the No. 1 spot last season, won in the DFS and Tan Holdings event for the solo lead.

In second place is Malika Miyawaki (1,250), followed by Mimi Sakano (1,050), Catherine Atalig (900), Ami



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Astig Futsal's Jeff Palacios, left, goes for a shot against Konflikt's Dakota Hill during the second half of their game in the youth futsal league last Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

## Astig Futsal hands Konflikt first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

 Astig Futsal denied Konflikt a sweep of the first round of the 2011 Saipan Soccer School Youth Futsal League after pulling off a 5-3 victory in their boys U15 division game last Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

Astig Futsal was aggressive on counter attacking and showed more quickness on breakaway plays to improve to a 2-0 record and end Konflikt's two-game winning run in the four-team field.

Sean Perez and Jeff Palacios scored two goals each in the second half to power Astig Futsal to its second win, one victory away from sweeping the first round. Astig Futsal will close out the first round of the double-round robin competition with a game against We-D-Fly tonight at 6:30pm.

William Hinson II logged the other goal for the Jershwin Angeles-coached Astig Futsal, finding the back of the net in the first half, which ended in a deadlock. John Joyner put Konflikt in the scoreboard in the opening 20 minutes of the match.

Then in the second half, Astig Futsal broke the tie, as Perez and Palacios managed to pull away from their defenders. Palacios' first goal in the second half was a notable one, as he went for a kick near midcourt and it went straight to its target. Perez' two goals came from counter-attacks.

Enrico Del Rosario and Dakota Hall had one goal each for Konflikt in the second half, but the rest of the team struggled, as they either overshot their mark or made moves when Astig Futsal's defense was already set up.

Before facing the then undefeated Konflikt, Astig Futsal debuted in the league with a huge 12-0 win over Shirley's Boys last Sunday. Palacios canned four goals in their first game, while Hinson, Jireh Yobech, and Tanapon Unsua added two each. Also scoring for Astig Futsal were Perez and Greg Sablan.

Meanwhile, Konflikt's first two victories came against Shirley's Boys and We-D-Fly. During the opening of the league on Dec. 15, Konflikt shut out Shirley's Boys, 12-0. Joyner had a hat-trick in their debut win, while Kennedy Izuka, Hall, and Andrew Johnson contributed two goals apiece. Del Rosario,

## Twin wins put SCS in second place

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



S C S  
H e a v y  
E q u i p -  
m e n t  
R e n t a l  
notched two wins in one night to gain a share of second place in the 2011 DLX Basketball Invitational Friendship League.

SCS first dueled Wushin Express and eked out an 81-78 victory last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court. Then in the second game, SCS picked up where it left off, slipping past Pacific Postal, 57-52. SCS now has a 5-1 record, tying Blue Haus for second place, three wins behind pennant champion MDX (8-0).

In its first game, SCS drew double figures from all six players who suited up against Wushin Express. Manolo Manalo led the team with 26, scoring SCS' last four points. Gilbert Miranda, Robert Guiang, and Jun Pantaleon chipped in 11 apiece, while Jessie Mina and Ferdie Tobias contributed 10 each.

Only two players broke into double figures for Wushin Express with Jun Tabora sizzling

for 38 markers and Junar Guiab tallying 16.

SCS and Wushin Express were pretty even in the majority of the match before Manalo made clutch shots and Mina hit his mark in the fourth period.

Wushin took a precarious 17-16 lead after the first period behind the eight points of Tabora. It was still a close match at the break, 33-31, in favor of Wushin, with Tabora adding five more points.

Tables turned at the start of the second half, as Manalo led SCS' charge, nailing eight points to give his team a three-point cushion, 57-54, entering the final canto. Teams traded baskets in the fourth period with Mina keeping SCS' distance, as he scored six early points in that canto. Miranda also helped the cause, drilling a triple late in the game, followed by Manalo's four straight points.

While it was a team effort for SCS, Wushin leaned heavily on Tabora, who drained 12 of the latter's last 14 points.

After escaping with a three-point win over Wushin, SCS had another tough victory in a make-up game against Pacific Postal Plus



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ferdie Tobias, seen here trying to keep the ball away from MDX's Ziddy Johanes, plays for SCS Heavy Equipment that won two games in the DLX caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

SCS and Pacific Postal played the remaining six minutes of the game with the latter eventually losing the lead and the match after having only four players in the continuation of the contest.

The SCS-Pacific Postal pair-

ing was first scheduled during the league's opener on Nov. 19, but was rained out in the fourth canto. Pacific Postal led in the first period, 12-6, as SCS was lethargic on offense. SCS then began hitting its shots in the second period, but only matched Pacific Postal's 20 points, leaving the latter with a 32-26 halftime advantage. In the third period, Pacific Postal nailed 39 markers against SCS' 37 to stretch the lead to eight, 71-63, and remained on top in the first four minutes of the final canto. However, the depleted Pacific Postal crew collapsed when the game resumed, allowing SCS to grab the win and go 2-for-2 last Wednesday night.

Pacific Postal remains winless (0-7), but will still advance to the eight-team playoffs, as Saipan Boys/San Roque (1-5) is already eliminated in the nine-team field after forfeiting two games.

**SCS 81** – Manalo 26, Miranda 11, Pantaleon 11, Guiang 11, Mina 10, Tobias 10.

**Wushin Express 78** – Tabora 39, Guiab 16, Patawaran 5, O. Ebuen 5, Farinas 4, De Jesus 3, Tibayan 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 16-17, 31-33, 57-54, 81-78.

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

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**Warriors' Ellis sued for alleged sexual harassment**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Chambers ahead in tight boys U10 rankings

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The boys U10 division has the closest race in the CNMI junior tennis top rankings with only 80 points separating the No. 1 player against three others.

Cole Chambers earned 1,080

rankings points from two early tournaments for the 2011-2012 season to lead Joshua Abragan, Mondo Taniguchi, and Steven Goodwin. Chambers jumped from No. 13th to the top spot after reigning supreme in last month's 3rd Annual Tan Holdings Classic. He had only 80 points after competing in the DFS tournament, but added 1,000 big points after winning

against Abragan in the finals of the Tan Holdings Classic, 8-3. Chambers, who finished runner-up in the doubles with teammate Logan Mister, was unseeded in the boys U10 singles and stunned the 11-player field with his victory

Abragan settled for the 750 rankings points allotted for the singles runner-up. He earned 250 rankings points in

the DFS tournament. Goodwin got 1,000 ranking points from the DFS tournament for a three-way tie for the No. 3 spot. He opted to join the U12 division in the Tan Holdings contest. Joining the logjam is Taniguchi, who got 500 points each from the DFS and Tan Holdings events.

Completing the ranking list are A.J. Hudkins (800), Robbie

Schorr (750), James Hourican (600), Steven An (500), Haruya Eda (450), Tony Atalig (425), Vincent Tudela (400), Gang Min Kim (300), Ken Song (250), Aditya Rai (240), Logan Mister

See CHAMBERS on Page 34

Cole Chambers poses for a photo after winning the boys U10 singles crown in last month's 3rd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Proa draws first blood in finals vs FGC

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER

**P**roa needed overtime to subdue stubborn FGC, 106-90, in Game 1 of Garapan Basketball League-IT&E Cup's best-of-three finals Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The game was tied at 83-all entering the final minute and Proa's Marvin Rabuliman missed a pair of free throws to keep it deadlocked.

FGC's Banjo Basila then drove to the hoop for the go-



ahead basket, but FGC turned the ball over after making a key stop, allowing Proa's Pete Iguel to slash to the bucket and tie it back at 85-all with just six seconds left on the clock.

FGC's Lorio Pagarao attempt-

ed a long-range shot to end it, but his buzzer-beater rimmed out.

Stymied with a 90-95 deficit with two minutes to go in overtime, FGC, which started the game hot, ended it cold and was limited to just a field goal in overtime and was blanked the

See PROA on Page 34

Proa's Pete Iguel leaps across the lane for a reverse layup in Game 1 of the GBL-IT&E Cup finals against FGC Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## GTC, Oleai top U12 football



Members of the Oleai Elementary School girls team pose with the U12 IFL championship trophy after outlasting Koblerville Elementary School in overtime, 1-0, in the finals Tuesday at the Hopwood Junior High School field.



Some members of the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School boys team pose for a photo after winning the IFL U12 championship over William S. Reyes Elementary, 2-0, Wednesday at the Hopwood Ju-

anas High School Gymnasium.

Leading the list are pacers Aim Low and Roc It, who are tied for the lead with their similar 8-1 records. Only six of the 12 teams will be playing in the second round of the fall league. Also getting slots to the next phase of the contest are The



## 5 teams lock second round slots

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Five teams have already secured tickets to the next round of the 2011 Rockball Fall League after last week's games at the Mari-

anas High School Gymnasium. Teacher, which is in solo second place with its 7-2 record, and Alpha Q and Give-a-Hoot, who are in a deadlock for the third spot with identical 6-3 marks.

Just-do-It, which owns a 5-4 card, could follow the five early qualifiers if it wins at least one of

See 5 TEAMS on Page 34